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# skin diver

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## COVER

*This friendly octopus, a resident of Grand Cayman's Balboa wreck, can be found on almost any night dive. For an interesting slant on night photography, see page 56. Photo by Geri Murphy.*

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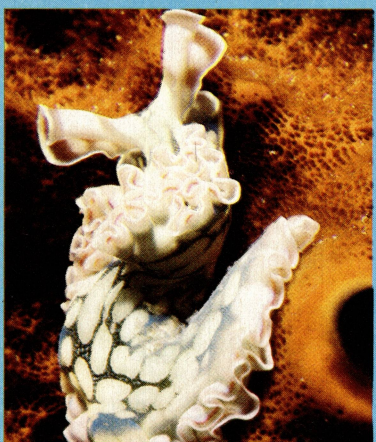
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88/Bahamian Bliss



56/Night Moves



8/Fancy Dancer



16/Bottle Bonanza



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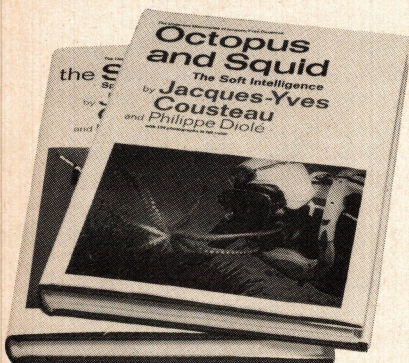
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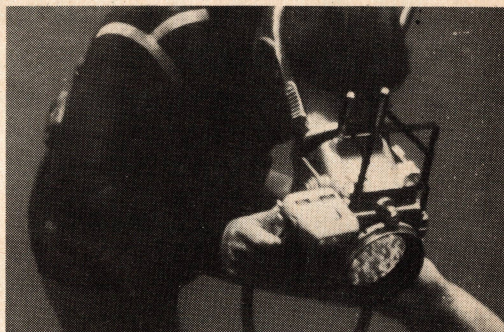
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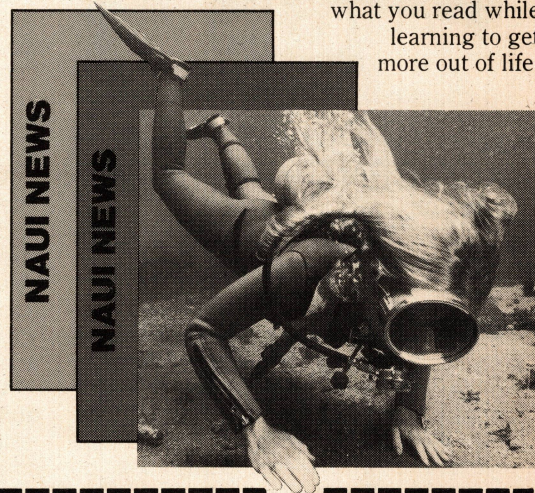
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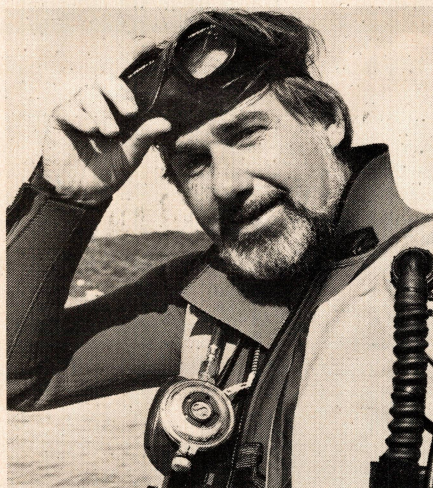
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# SDM Editorial

BY THE PUBLISHER



## DIVING DEFENSIVELY— ACCIDENT PREVENTION PROGRAM

**A**ccident prevention is unquestionably one of the major concerns of the diving community. At times it seems as though we are preoccupied with the subject, and perhaps rightly so. Because we are involved with an alien environment which can sometimes be harsh or unpredictable we must constantly strive for near perfection.

Few sportsmen are as conscientious about safety as the diving community. Scuba instructors devote the major portion of their training to safety and survival in open water. The textbooks are loaded with plans, procedures and rules which are all safety oriented. The equipment we wear today is basically designed with safety as the primary consideration, and most innovations such as BC's and octopus rigs are the outgrowth of accident prevention efforts.

Yet, with all of this emphasis and attention to scuba safety, there is still only one effective way of avoiding or preventing dive accidents. The key is the individual diver — you. You must be totally aware of the situation around you and fully know yourself. Accidents don't just happen, nor are they a result of bad

luck. Psychologists who study accidents have discovered there are certain causative factors which frequently form a pattern for an accident. Many seemingly senseless or idiotic mistakes may actually have a very logical origin. People often do stupid things because they are not thinking straight or are not themselves. Being aware of distractions or abnormal influences can be the key to preventing an accident. Here are just a few ways that you can dive defensively and perhaps avoid a potential accident:

**Be properly equipped.** If you discover that a vital piece of dive gear is broken or you have forgotten to bring it along, abort the dive or at least postpone it until you can borrow a replacement. Going into the water with a broken submersible pressure gauge or minus a depth gauge is really asking for trouble.

**Keep your gear in working order.** There is nothing more upsetting or distracting than a regulator which starts free-flowing or acting funny in the middle of a deep dive. Keep your regulator in good repair and well tuned. Also check your BC frequently for air-tight integrity and make sure your gauges are accurate.

**Avoid drugs and drinking prior to diving.** Narcotics and alcoholic severely reduce your ability to react quickly in an emergency situation. They also impair good judgement and are frequently the root of human error. Even a hangover from the previous night can severely affect your ability to dive. Recurring waves of nausea, dizziness and vertigo underwater can lead to tragedy.

**Get plenty of rest.** Fatigue is one of the major causes of diver error, poor judgement and poor coordination. A sleepless night can lead to many mistakes.

**Don't rush.** Many dive accidents begin on the boat or beach. A diver who is hurriedly suiting up for the dive can frequently make mistakes or become forgetful. A regulator is not properly seated on a tank valve and blows an O-ring in the middle of a dive. A hose is not connected to a BC inflator; a depth gauge is forgotten; or a tank strap is not buckled properly. Don't let anyone rush you. Take your time and do it right.

**Use a pre-dive check list.** Most pro-

fessional divers use some kind of pre-dive check list — some do it mentally while others refer to an actual written list. Check lists are simple but effective reminders. Airline pilots use them faithfully.

**Beware of emotional stress within yourself.** Depression, worry or brooding can be extremely distracting. You find yourself making little mistakes because you are not thinking of what you are doing. Anger or frustration can make you impatient or careless. These are times when you must be particularly careful in your dive preparations. Force yourself to concentrate on your diving and leave your troubles on the surface.

**Don't be afraid to abort a dive.** Some people feel embarrassed about calling off a dive because they are afraid of what others might think. If the dive conditions appear dangerous or you are not feeling well, don't be shy about canceling the dive. Chances are that others may silently feel exactly the same way.

**Don't become over-confident.** Veteran divers are especially vulnerable to this hazard. Because they go diving in the same place and in the same way repeatedly, the dive routine becomes repetitive and almost boring. After awhile, they slacken up on safety procedures: start diving without a B.C., never bother to take along a pressure gauge, or may even dive alone. Sooner or later the odds catch up with them because the normal routine is interrupted by some unforeseen emergency.

**Stay in shape.** Just because you are an experienced diver don't kid yourself into thinking you can outsmart the rigors of open water diving. It takes stamina and strength to cope with strong currents, a heavy surge or big surf. There is no substitute for regular exercise and either diving or swimming on a regular basis is one of the best ways to do it.

There is nothing new in what has been stated so far. Most of it is just common sense taught in every basic scuba class. Accident prevention is solely dependent upon your being fully aware of the situation around you and being fully prepared to handle any conceivable emergency. Accident prevention is strictly up to you, so why not dive defensively? ➤



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# sea suits

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# TIPS

## To Insure Perfect Scuba

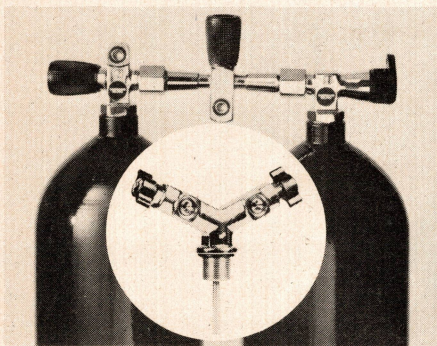


### HIGH RISK DIVES REQUIRE ADDED SAFETY MEASURES.

Night dives, cave dives, wreck dives, ice dives . . . they're all exciting, and more hazardous than normal sport dives. That's why high risk diving requires special gear for added safety.

Normally, two second stage regulators connected to a single first stage and tank valve, is an acceptable safety measure. Its one drawback is that if the valve or first stage fails, neither second stage will function.

Preferred gear on a risky dive is a Benjamin crossover double tank rig. Its dual outlet design provides separate valves for two independent first and second stage regulators, and also gives the added safety of double tank capacity. Should the primary valve-regulator assembly fail, normal breathing can be continued through the secondary valve-regulator assembly, and a safe ascent can be made. The secondary valve-regulator assembly can also be used by another diver in need.



Sherwood offers a variety of Benjamin crossover double tank rigs for all types of diving situations. Sherwood also offers the new Sherwood slingshot, a dual outlet valve that allows the attachment of two independent first and second stage regulators to separate valves mounted on one tank. It's ideal for cave and wreck dives, or wherever tight spaces prohibit double tank rigs.

Put more safety and fun into every dive. Stop by your local dive shop and get all the facts on the full line of dependable Sherwood gear.



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# Underwater Forum

## Elpower Battery

The rechargeable Elpower battery mentioned in George Cozens' U/W hand light article (April 1979) is also available at dive stores through Scubamaster. Contact Scubamaster, P.O. Box 8030, Compton, CA 90220, for the dive store nearest you that carries these batteries.

## Altitude Diving Record

In the January, 1979 issue of SKIN DIVER, page 46, a news release stated that David Norquist "established a world altitude diving record in Lake Waiau [Hawaii]." I do not believe this information is correct.

In the April, 1966 issue of SKIN DIVER, Bill Barada wrote about research dives conducted by my staff in the Lake of the Sun and the Lake of the Moon — which lie in the crater of the Volcano of Toluca (near Mexico City) at an elevation of 13,828 feet. Since the altitude of Lake Waiau is just over 13,000 feet, I believe our dives were at a higher altitude. DR. M. GUZMAN-PEREDO  
Instituto Mexicano de Oceanografia  
Mexico City, Mexico

## He's Fightin' Mad

Regarding your article, Shipwreck Legislation (SDM April '79), I want to go on record and say I'm angry. I have been wreck diving for eight years and it makes me mad to think that some chair-borne political desk jockey, who knows nothing about the sport, pleasure or thrill of diving wants to stop me. I know the salvage laws are bad now but I shudder to think what they'll be like if this "people's advocate," McKinney, has his way.

What can be done about this problem I do not know. But I, for one, wrote to the President of the United States concerning this matter. Maybe if he receives enough letters, he'll help. If I were running for re-election, I would not want to alienate thousands of diving voters.

CARL FISMER  
SARASOTA, FL

## The Dropout Problem

I would like to offer some reasons for diver dropout. Some apply to me, some apply to friends, some are speculation:

1. Some students just never get "turned on" but complete the course and get the C-card anyway.
2. Diving requires a safety conscious, qualified dive buddy, who is also a friend. It is easy to find someone

who qualifies in two categories, but all three are necessities.

3. Many divers become disappointed with cliques in dive clubs and the diving community.
4. To stay in shape for diving, both mentally and physically, requires regular diving. It's not just a once or twice a summer sport.
5. Many newly certified divers lose interest in favor of other recreation.
6. "Card collectors" get certified, fully intending to drop out.
7. Some divers find it difficult to break into a new dive community after a geographic relocation.
8. Commitments to family and work limit the time needed for enrollment in advanced classes and planning of enjoyable dive outings.

I am sure I could come up with many more reasons. These, I think, are enough to make a point. In most cases, we could just as easily be speaking of skiing, ballooning, hang gliding, sky diving, or a number of other modern sports. SDM's Dec. '78 editorial states, "Diving is so beautiful, so exciting, and so fascinating that it is hard to imagine why anyone would quit." I have heard this said about skiing. Well, I tried; I hated it; I quit.

ROBERT NYSTROM  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

## America's Paradise

Congratulations on an outstanding section in the January, 1979 SKIN DIVER on America's Paradise in the Caribbean. We have made a number of dives in the U.S. Virgin Islands and are planning to return in a few months. Keep up the good work!

MILT BAUM  
SALEM, OR

## Navigable Waterways

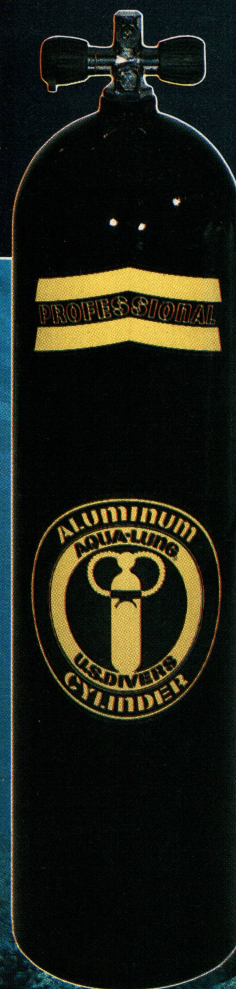
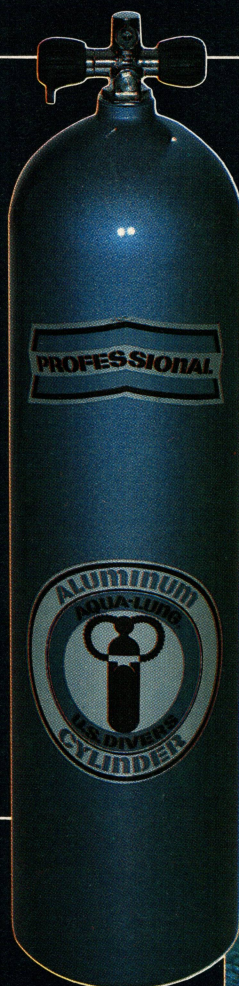
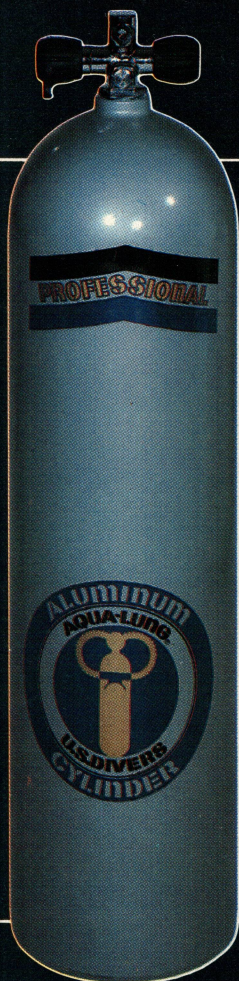
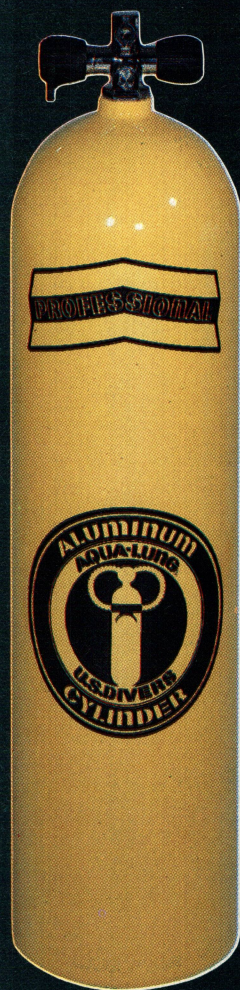
I would like clarification of the term "navigable waterways," particularly regarding Florida's Wakulla, Rainbow, and Weeki Watchi rivers and their head springs. My understanding of the term is that no one owns or controls any of the waterways designated as "navigable" and that they are for the mutual benefit and enjoyment of all.

ROBERT NEWTON  
MARIETTA, GA

Your question regarding ownership of navigable waterways is a legal bucket of worms that varies from state to state and,  
(Continued on Page 11)



# THE ORIGINAL... U. S. DIVERS' ALUMINUM



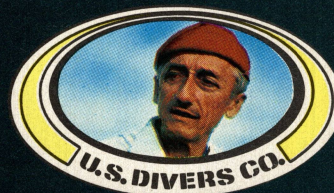
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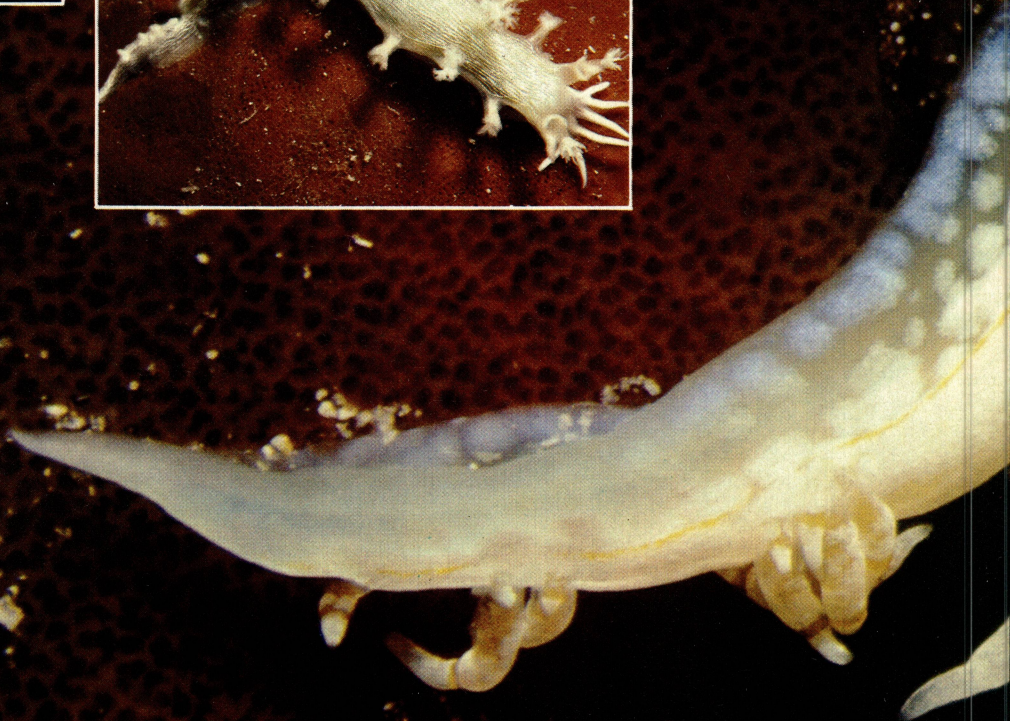
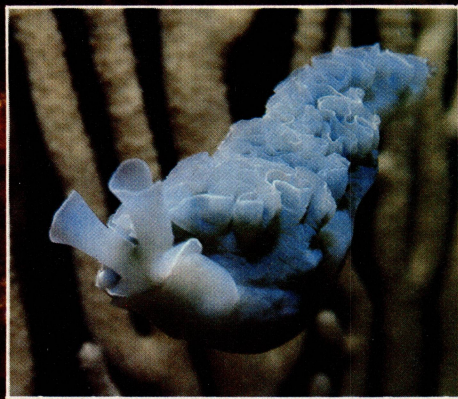
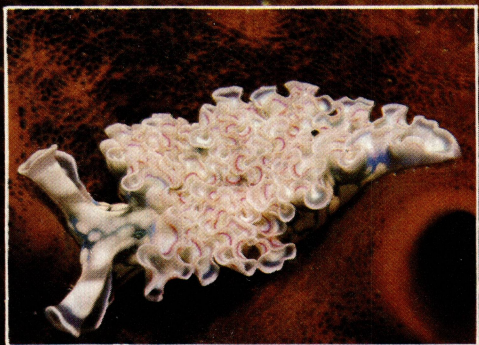
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# NUDI WHAT?

Nighttime Is Prime Time For Finding Nudibranchs

**W**hat undersea creature is orange and white and tufted all over, yet eludes many divers? A nudibranch, of course. The name, which means "naked gills," describes a shell-less mollusk with external gills. Because of the unusual shape and coloration of these creatures, divers find nudibranchs fascinating to observe and challenging to photograph — when they find them at all.

How can animals with such striking forms and gaudy colors be so difficult to spot? The answer lies in their miniscule size, natural camouflage, and reclusive habits.

Nudibranchs are rarely more than two inches in length; some are just an inch long and a few are even smaller. To discover them a diver must be closely attuned to underwater details. Nudibranchs are usually overlooked or misidentified.

Size is only one of the factors contributing to the concealment of these specialized mollusks. Another factor is shape and color. The ruffleback nudibranch, motionless under a rocky overhang, is easily mistaken for a small sponge. The lacy nudibranch lives underneath soft corals which have been uprooted and are lying on the bottom. It blends in perfectly with the sand on the gorgonians until movement betrays it.


Though nudibranchs are often hidden in the daytime, at night they abandon their hideaways to graze on algae, or soft corals, or even along the sand. Nighttime is the optimum time for nudibranch-hunting.

Searching for nudibranchs could be frustrating, but finding just one of these beauties will make it all worthwhile. >PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS MC LAUGHLIN

BY DEE SCARR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS MC LAUGHLIN



A black and white advertisement for Scubamaster diving equipment. The background is a deep blue gradient. In the center, a diving mask and snorkel are displayed. The mask has a large, clear, wide-angle lens and a black frame. The snorkel is black with a white interior and a black mouthpiece. A black strap with the Scubamaster logo is visible. The headline "SEE MORE FISH FOR LESS CLAMS." is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below the headline, there are two columns of text. The left column describes the mask and snorkel, and the right column describes the mask's design and the Buddy System program. At the bottom, there is a line of text about the High Flow Snorkel and a line about the Scubamaster Catalog and dealer information.

# SEE MORE FISH FOR LESS CLAMS.

Your Scubamaster dive shop has an unbeatable value for you... Scubamaster's Silicone Mask and High Flow Snorkel at a special combination price.

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The High Flow Snorkel is a professional big-bore

design with a unique conical bell-shaped tip that improves air flow.

Ask your local dive shop about his special combination price on Scubamaster's #1273 mask and #1442 snorkel. It's all part of the Buddy System, a program dedicated to offering you advanced design and quality products at affordable prices. So see your participating Scubamaster dealer soon. He's the best buddy you've got.

**THE BUDDY SYSTEM... FROM Scubamaster.**

Send \$2.00 for the new Scubamaster Catalog and the name of your nearest Scubamaster dealer. P.O. Box 8030, Compton, CA 90220 (213) 636-0846



## UNDERWATER FORUM

(Continued from Page 6)

in Florida, from county to county. The legal definition originally was that any waterway that would float a log or canoe was designated navigable. But nobody paid any attention until the environmental movement tackled the federal government's programs of channelizing and damming major rivers. Then the law was rewritten into the usual complex, bureaucratic gobbledygook.

Basically, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for "protecting" and maintaining navigable waterways (which now include wetlands in Florida). But in Florida, the federal government deeded all submerged lands to the state to be held in "trust" for the people. Florida officials immediately began selling state-owned submerged lands to private owners for development through dredging and filling. That is how we got all those private waterfront canal developments in Miami, Tampa, St. Pete, etc. The state also sold entire lakes and streams, including their bottoms, to private owners and these waterways are now essentially privately owned.

Few people have contested the legality of these in court, the cost would be exorbitant. However, one or two have challenged George Ball's fencing off the Wakulla spring run. Ball won, even though a court ruled his fence is illegal, it is still in place and state officials help him keep boats from running up to the spring.

Rainbow, Weeki Watchi and Wakulla head springs are privately owned and they can legally keep you out, just as in Silver Springs and others. My suggestion is that divers concentrate on getting the state to repurchase some of the many privately owned springs that are not yet developed into resorts - such as the Ichetucknee.

BILL BARADA

### Our Future in Depth

The directors of Our Future in Depth have changed the program from an annual event to a biennial one. The next program will be held in the spring of 1980, tentatively on April 26. In the meantime, applications will be accepted for the Clayton Link Scholarship and the Coastal Diving Academy Scholarship.

The group will continue to sponsor Underwater Explorer Post 903, providing educational information, guidance, and entertainment for young people who are interested in careers in diving or marine science.

The OFID Underwater Photography Contest will continue to invite entries from amateurs and professionals alike, with awards and displays of winning photos.

(Continued on Page 14)

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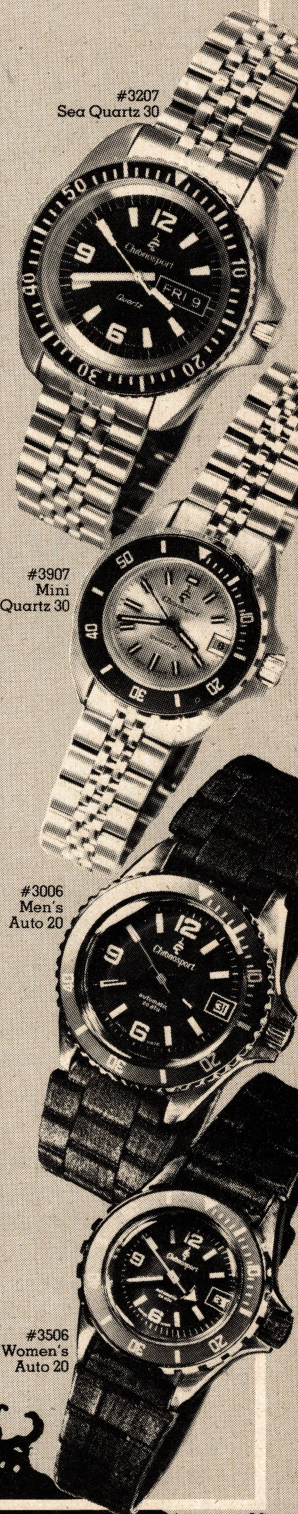
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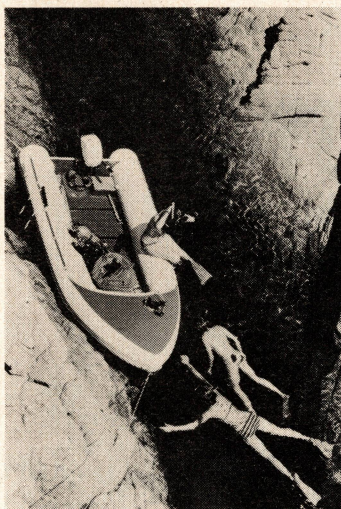


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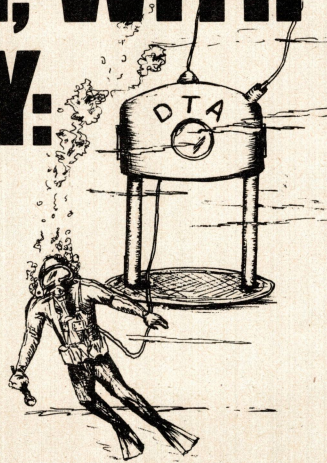
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(Continued from Page 11)

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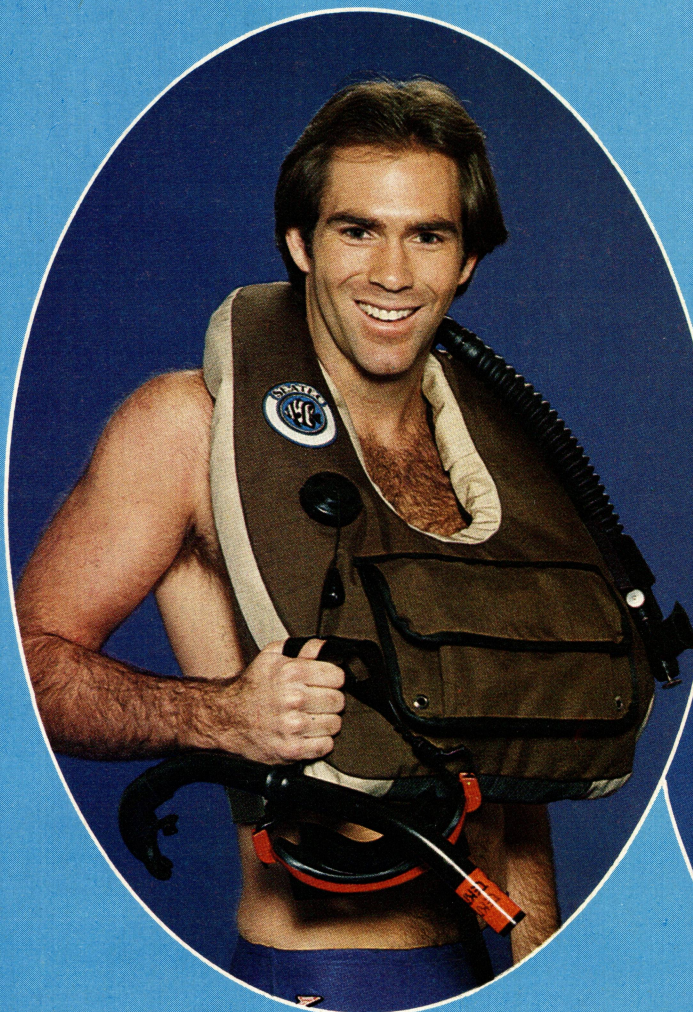
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# Glass Trea

## ALL ABOUT BOTTLES How to age, identify, clean...and find them

Text and photography by Bill Gleason and Frank Fennell

**D**uring the last few decades a growing number of divers has been recovering treasure from beneath the sea. This treasure is not gold, silver, or precious stones, but the glass containers and bottles used generations ago by our ancestors. Bottle collecting is not restricted to veteran professional divers and does not require any additional equipment.

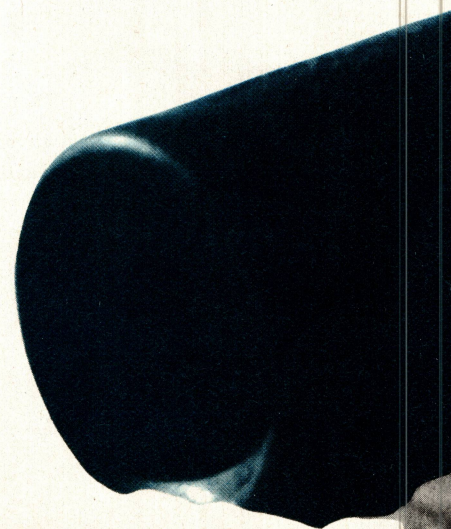
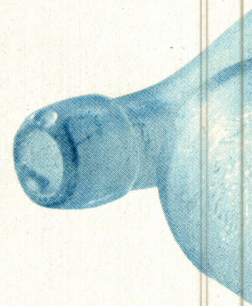
"Treasure," in the case of bottle collectors, truly lies in the eyes of the beholder. Coral encrusted, battered by undersea elements, and often filled with undesirable substances such as mud or decaying material, bottles do not radiate monetary or historical value. Once cleaned and displayed, however, they have significant importance. The price that other collectors are willing to pay usually reflects the bottle's relative scarcity. A more subtle and more interesting aspect of bottle collecting is the romantic appeal of articles reclaimed both from the sea and from the past. Who used it, for what, and why? A bottle recovered from the depths often answers some of these questions and provides insight into historical sites and increased awareness of how our ancestors conducted their daily lives.

Antique bottles are common to almost all bodies of water, and all divers have encountered the litter of present generations during a dive. You may be unaware that Revolutionary and Civil War antiques may lie lightly camouflaged beneath the litter of present day soda and beer bottles. And while the

probability of randomly jumping into the Pacific, Atlantic, Great Lakes, or a local body of water and immediately filling your catch bag with antique bottles is slight, there are techniques to employ which should ensure that you do not return from the dive empty handed.

### RESEARCH

If you do not know of any common bottle dive sites or are approaching bottle collecting with no experience, your local library or town hall is the best place to begin your research. Look for old maps that detail the waterfront of a particular locale and attempt to identify piers, dock structures, obsolete harbors and moorings, and general areas of population concentration prior to 1910. The years prior to 1860 will yield the oldest containers, almost always in the form of black glass. The years 1860 to 1910 will yield the most diversified results in terms of color, shape, and unique characteris-





# SURE

A photograph of several antique glass bottles on a sandy beach. In the foreground, a clear glass bottle lies horizontally, showing embossed text that includes 'PILSENER BEER' and 'K. M. H. & CO. N.Y.'. Behind it, a tall, slender clear bottle stands upright. To the right, a dark green bottle stands upright. In the background, a dark bottle lies horizontally. On the left, a blue glass bottle is partially visible. The bottles are set against a backdrop of a large, light-colored rock and a clear sky.

Antique bottle collecting opens new horizons to divers. Properly cleaned and displayed, these once mud filled or coral encrusted containers take on new life and meaning. Some are extremely valuable to serious collectors.



tics. From 1910 to the present you will find bottles similar to modern ones, although there are notable exceptions for the beginning of this particular period. Once you have identified a tentative area you must pinpoint the approximate position of the dive. Since shorelines are constantly changing, base the position of the dive on landmarks that are still recognizable today. Even if a shore structure has been abandoned, torn down, or modified, the bottom may still be a bonanza for bottle collectors. Although avid and experienced bottle divers will search zero visibility waters for their prizes, a little research should turn up a site that is more visually appealing for the novice.

## DIVING FOR BOTTLES

Once a site has been determined and the entry has been made, the search is really on. Antique bottles are most commonly found with a layer of silt, sand, or mud covering them, and often only a small part of the bottle is visible. With a little practice a diver is soon able to spot bottles he or she would have passed over as part of the natural marine environment earlier. If your dive site is a harbor or pier and there is evidence of present day bottles, don't be afraid to probe and dig beneath this superficial layer; you'll often be surprised at the antiques uncovered. A layering of bottles is very common in harbors and the deeper you dig the older your finds will be. Once you have uncovered a bottle, the following guides will help to determine whether it's worth bringing back to the shore.

1. Look at the top, or lip, of the bottle. If at all different from the normal bottle cap, called a crown cap, or a common screw top container, it is usually worth looking at on shore. (Watch out, however, for common wine bottles, which fall into this category.)
2. Look for an irregular shape, or raised (embossed) lettering on the bottle. On your first bottle dive bring back anything you don't recognize immediately. You can discard later.

Once you're back to shore, rinse the bottles of superficial mud and empty them of sand, etc. After this has been done, it becomes easier to weed out the obviously modern bottles.

## CLEANING THE BOTTLES

Soap and water are often all you need to clean freshwater bottles. A few inexpensive brushes can be used for the interior of the bottle and the job is done. With bottles recovered from salt water, however, coral growth and other marine encrustations may hamper the cleaning process. Some people prefer to display a bottle with coral, etc., left on it for it lends a realistic touch to this sea treasure. If you desire to completely restore the orig-

inal appearance of the bottle, it may be necessary to use varying strengths of a commercial cleaner (such as muriatic acid). Make sure that if you use commercial cleaners you are familiar with all the necessary precautions.

Once your bottles have been cleaned, the most interesting stage of the hobby of bottle collecting has been reached — identification. In order to make identifications it is necessary to know a little about the history of glassmaking and it is usually helpful to consult any of the many books about bottle collecting. Bottle books that are price guides are of great value to the serious collector and trader, but a simpler book explaining the types of bottles and the history of bottle making is fine for the novice collector.

## HISTORY OF BOTTLES

There has been evidence of man-made glass dating back almost 3500 years. Sand, soda and lime, the ingredients of glass, were first worked by glassblowers around the first century B.C. Basic glass-blowing techniques



Mold marks and a multitude of lip types help the underwater bottle collector identify his finds.

were begun with the Roman culture and rapidly spread along trade routes. Centuries later, American colonies had artisans who worked glass in the classical style. This involved the use of a blowpipe, or long, hollow tube, to shape and expand a mass of molten glass. By regulating the force of breath expelled into the tube and by skillfully turning the pipe, the craftsman could control the size and shape of the bottle. These free, or hand blown bottles, comprise the oldest category of bottles. They are easily recognized by their irregular shapes, lack of symmetry, and the absence of any lines, or mold marks.

In an age when bottles are taken for granted it should be stressed that these hand blown bottles, and most bottles made before 1900, were expensive and reused extensively. Therefore, outside of their being found around older wrecks, bottles of this type found underwater are a tribute either to clumsiness or to a propensity for drink remarkable in our ancestors. These finds are indeed rare and you are more likely to encounter them in Caribbean waters rather than in American waters.

This brings the art of glassmaking into the mid-19th century. As the seeds of the industrial revolution were being sown in other industries, so were important changes taking place in the bottle industry. The most important of these involved the introduction of molds. These were originally of wood, and the molten glass (still at the end of a manually held blowpipe) was introduced into the mold and the mold shaped the lower portion of the bottle. The earliest molds were called open molds and shaped only the main body of the bottle. These were the precursors of three piece molds which appeared around 1860 and were prevalent until the 1880's. These molds left telltale marks, and an inspection of the bottle will usually reveal them. The body of the bottle was usually formed in one piece and the neck was molded in two pieces. The resulting marks are really a signature when determining a bottle's age.

The history of glassmaking is an interesting, and sometimes tragic, one. The competition among glassmakers in the 19th century caused some firms to lure master glassmakers away from rival firms in order to learn what the competition was doing. This sometimes resulted in the death of either the competitor or the glassmaker. The glassmaking industry was shrouded in secrecy, and this accounts for the distinctiveness of the bottles produced in the late 1800's. Child labor was also used extensively in the production of glass. So the bottle you find today may be largely the effort of a 12 year old child who earned about 25¢ in wages for a ten hour work day.

A man named Michael J. Owens, himself an employee of a glasshouse at the age of ten, finally standardized the production of bottles around 1910. His automatic bottle machine revolutionized the bottle making industry. With it came standards of quality which have made the hobby of collecting bottles so interesting. Bottles of today are uniform and utilitarian. With the combination of the Owen's bottle machine and the standard type of closure called a crown cap, or bottle cap, the era of individualism in the production of bottles came to an end.

## IDENTIFICATION

Volumes have been written on the subject of bottle identification and this article can only provide a very rough guide. If a bottle is inspected carefully after it has been cleaned, the lines, or mold marks, can be seen usually running vertically or horizontally on the bottle. The following rough guide can be used to determine its age:

1. Pre-1860: The seam only extends to the neck of the bottle.
2. 1860-1880: The seam extends into the neck of the bottle, but does not approach the lip of the bottle.





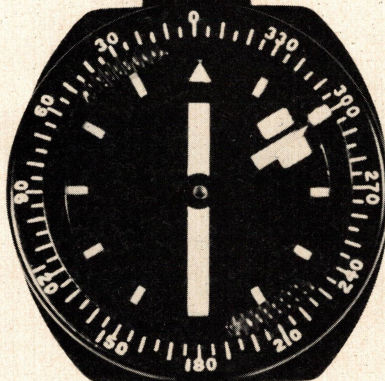
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## GLASS TREASURE

3. 1880-1900: The vertical seam extends almost to the top of the neck of the bottle.
4. Post-1900: The vertical seam extends to the top of the bottle.

Besides the mold marks another rough guide, used in conjunction with mold seams, is the lip, or top, of the bottle. The earliest hand blown bottles usually have what is called a sheared lip. This is a rough cut top that is not level and is usually sharply defined on the edges. The next type of lip was hand applied — smoother, yet still not in keeping with the uniformity of the rest of the bottle. After the applied lip came a multitude of lips which include blob top, Hutchison stopper, Codd bottles, and a variety of others. This was the transition period from corks to other types of closures. Some very interesting types of bottles can be recovered from this period (1890) preceding the era of standardized bottles. The best advice to novices is to collect a few bottles from a lake, stream, or the sea and then read some of the bottle books available. What began as a collection of accidents and litter from the past may become a very rewarding hobby.

Remember, above all, that rarities, exceptions to the rule, and oddities abound in the field of bottle collecting. A bottle recovered from an old naval yard in Bermuda with identifiable numbers and characteristics was accurately dated to the year 1892. Imagine the surprise when an identical bottle was discovered while night diving and lobstering in Long Island Sound four years later. A collection of bottles is a collection of stories, anecdotes, and historical trivia. It costs nothing to become a collector, enriches your appreciation of the sea and what it contains, opens new horizons for diving, and ushers you into a new partnership with the past.

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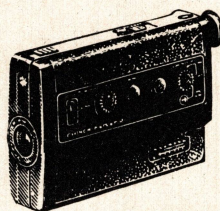
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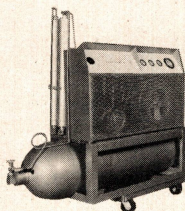
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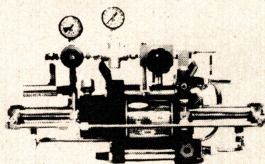
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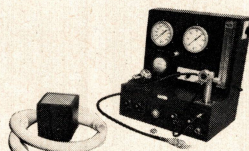
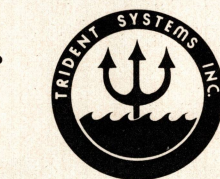
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# Shows'n Events

**June 15-17** Oceans 79, Monash Univ., Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. Speakers, Sir Robert Marx, Dr. Paul Dayton, J. McNulty, Ron & Val Taylor (Contact: Peter Stone, The Oceans Society of Australia, PO Box 4604, GPO Spencer St., Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3001)

**Sept. 15** 2nd Vision 360, an Int'l Diving Symposium, State College, Buffalo, NY (Contact: D. Edmiston, Vision 360, PO Box 842, Buffalo, NY 14221)

**October 13** Seamark '79, 5th annual fund raising for Cotting School for Handicapped Children, New England Aquarium, Boston, 7:30 p.m. (Contact: Cotting School, 241 St. Botolph St., Boston, MA 02115 or (617-536-9632)

## COUSTEAU HEADS PADI COLLEGE BOARD

PADI International College in California, Inc., has announced that Philippe



Cousteau, oceanographer, diver and director of the Cousteau Society, has agreed to serve as chairman of the college's international advisory board.

Other members of the college advisory board are: Bruce E. Bassett, Ph.D., physiologist-hyperbaric medicine; Glen H. Egstrom, Ph.D., professor of kinesiology, UCLA; Ralph Erickson, president, PADI International; Hillary Hauser, author, photographer; George S. Lewbel, Ph.D., marine ecologist; John J. McAniff, director, National Underwater Accident Data Center; James Stewart, diving officer, Scripps Institution of Oceanography; Paul J. Tzimoulis, editor-publisher, SKIN DIVER Magazine; Greg L. Perczak, J.D., general counsel.

PADI International College is located at 1310 Rosecrans, San Diego, California 92106.

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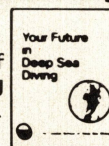


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...my partner warn me about my bottom time. He was on the support boat, transmitting over his WET-PHONE™ Surface Tender. I had my WET-PHONE transceiver strapped to my arm. To tell you the truth, I'm not crazy about diving alone. But now that I can talk and listen down there, it makes a world of difference. I'm more free to do what I'm paid for.

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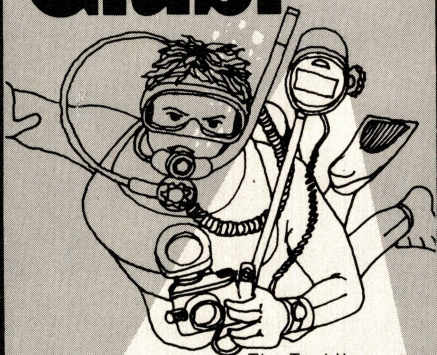
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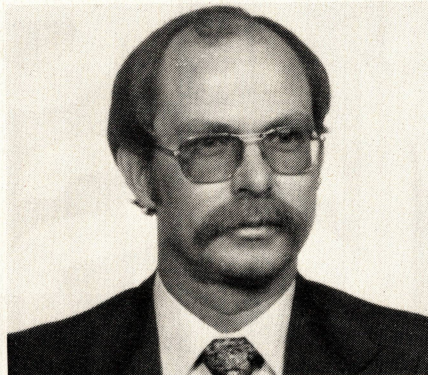
See the Toshiba TM-1 at your dive shop or photo specialty dealer. Or write for descriptive literature.

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## SEAPRO APPOINTS MCCOMBS

In a move to strengthen its "personal touch" relationship with professional dive stores, Seapro, Inc. has appointed Mike McCombs national sales manager.



McCombs will be responsible for sales, marketing and training seminars for store owners, managers and sales personnel. He will also be responsible for directly representing Seapro in the states of California, Arizona, Nevada, Oregon and Washington.

McCombs' 12 years experience in retail sales management combined with dive store sales training provides Seapro with a unique opportunity to accomplish their dealership support program goals.

Dealers interested in participating in Seapro Sales and Training Seminars should call (714) 979-6730 or write to Mike McCombs, Seapro, Inc., 18030 South Euclid Street, Fountain Valley, California 92708.

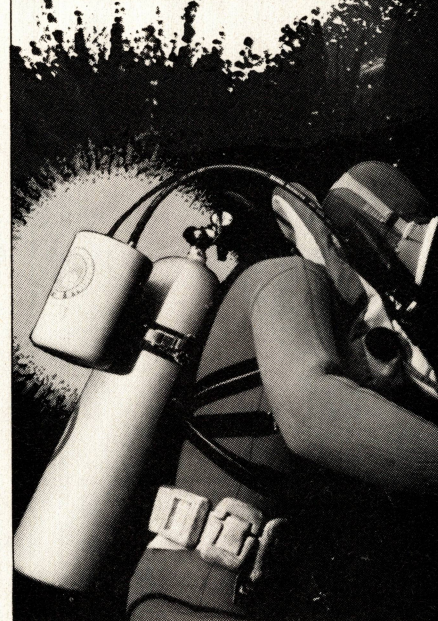
## CAVE DIVING FORUM

NACD (National Association for Cave Diving) has announced its First Annual Cave Diving Forum, to be held in North Florida, Aug. 11-12, 1979. The oldest cave diving certifying agency in the country, NACD is the first to dedicate itself entirely to the goals of Safety, Education, Service, and Conservation. Its weekend forum is designed specifically for certified instructors and will encompass lectures and diving. Emphasis will be placed on cave diving basics. Additional emphasis will be placed on how to educate the divers and students regarding the potential hazards involved with cave diving.

The objective of the forum is not to teach or promote cave diving, but to increase understanding of the problems associated with the overhead environment. Participants will receive a certificate suitable for framing.

For further information, contact: NACD, P.O. Box 1518, High Springs, Florida 32643.

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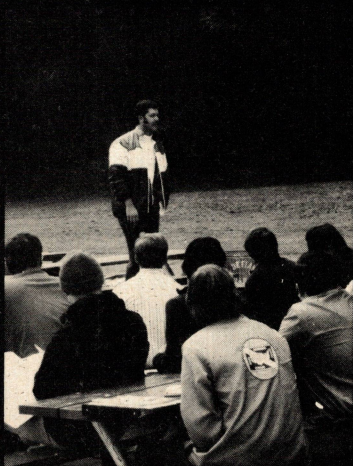
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Many of us in diving instruction were at the point you are now a few years ago. It started with the realization that we thoroughly enjoyed diving and being with the people in our very special group. We wanted to dive at all the exotic dive sites in the world and extend our knowledge of the sport to the fullest. More importantly, we felt a need to share our experiences with others.

Try to understand that your dream of becoming a diving instructor needn't be an unrealized fantasy. Here's the way to achieve your goal: Continue to extend your diving experiences and expand your knowledge in all phases of sport diving. Your local NASDS store/school will provide you with the advanced diving courses and the necessary continuing activities. When you make the choice, do not hesitate to call the directors of the NASDS Diving Instructors College, Tony Zimos and Dick Hammes, for further information and advice. (714) 224-3228. You may write to them at the NASDS Instructors College, 4004 Sports Arena Blvd., San Diego, CA. 92110.





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FROM THE

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Our twentieth anniversary, June 15, 1979, would not have become a reality without your support. To our friends and customers we thank you for —

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- Playing with us on Sunday fun beach dives
- Traveling with us to exotic places around the world
- Sending your friends for instruction
- Appreciating quality and value in our diving equipment
- Your enthusiasm for and appreciation of fine underwater photography

In celebration of our anniversary, special activities have been planned for you in the month of June. Please call any of our stores listed below for details.

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*Gordon Heck*

*Terry Nicklin*

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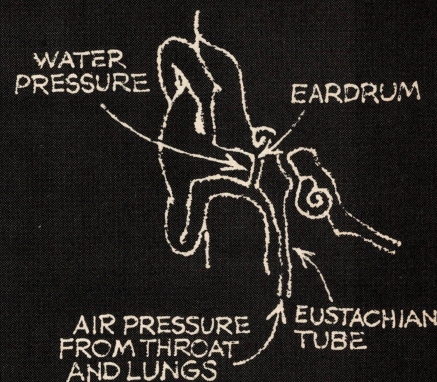


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# SDM SCUBA QUIZ



## Category: Ear Problems

By Dennis Graver

The effects of pressure are probably felt more in our ears than in any other parts of our bodies. The ears are important for our equilibrium as well as our sense of hearing. Test your knowledge of ear problems in diving by answering the following questions. Answers are on the next page.

**1. When the external pressure on the ear is greater than the pressure inside the ear, the condition is described as:**

- ☐ A. Reverse block
- ☐ B. Squeeze
- ☐ C. Hypoxia
- ☐ D. Alternobaric vertigo

**2. When ear plugs are worn by a diver, which of the following is likely to occur:**

- ☐ A. The plugs may be driven deeply into the ear canal
- ☐ B. The eardrum may rupture outward
- ☐ C. The eardrum may rupture inward
- ☐ D. A and B, but not C

**3. As long as no pain is felt, a diver can equalize pressure in the ears quite forcefully with no effects.**

- ☐ A. True, if the diver is above water
- ☐ B. True, if the diver is underwater
- ☐ C. False, above or below water
- ☐ D. True, above or below water

**4. The fin of another diver passes close to your ear as the diver swims by you. This could cause you to experience:**

- ☐ A. Reverse block
- ☐ B. Perforated eardrum
- ☐ C. Ear squeeze
- ☐ D. A and B, but not C

**5. If a diver's eardrum should rupture while the diver is underwater, the diver is likely to experience:**

- ☐ A. Vertigo
- ☐ B. Infection
- ☐ C. Hearing loss
- ☐ D. All of the above

**6. As a diver ascends, the expanding air in one ear escapes easily, but is trapped inside the other ear. This diver is likely to experience:**

- ☐ A. Vertigo
- ☐ B. Infection
- ☐ C. Hearing loss
- ☐ D. All of the above

**7. As a diver ascends, the expanding air in both ears is unable to escape. This condition is known as:**

- ☐ A. Squeeze
- ☐ B. Hyperequalization
- ☐ C. Reverse block
- ☐ D. Dyspnea

**8. Cold water coming into contact with one eardrum, but not with the other, can result in:**

- ☐ A. Temporary vertigo
- ☐ B. Temporary hearing loss
- ☐ C. Hypothermia
- ☐ D. Unbalanced equalization

**9. The preferred method of equalizing pressure in the ears of divers during descent is:**

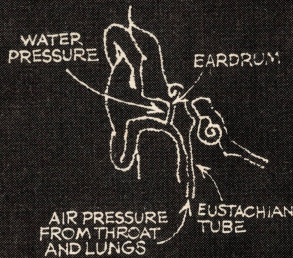
- ☐ A. Forcefully and frequently
- ☐ B. Gently and frequently
- ☐ C. Forcefully and infrequently
- ☐ D. Gently and infrequently

**10. Which of the following methods is recommended to prevent external ear infection?**

- ☐ A. Wash the ear canal thoroughly with soap and water
- ☐ B. Keep all ear wax cleared out of ear canals
- ☐ C. Dry the ear canals thoroughly after diving
- ☐ D. All of the above



# SDM SCUBA QUIZ



## Answers: Ear Problems

**1. B. Squeeze.** When air cannot pass through the eustachian tube (a small, natural tube leading from the throat to the ear) to equalize pressure in the middle ear, an ear squeeze will result during descent. Successful methods of equalization to open the tube to the ears include swallowing, yawning, or blowing against closed mouth and nostrils.

**2. D. A and B, but not C.** With a plug in the ear, the ear canal becomes a closed chamber, with the plug at one end and the eardrum at the other. Increasing external pressure will attempt to compress the closed air space by pushing the plug into it from the outside and the eardrum into it from the inside. Ear plugs are not for divers!

**3. C. False, above or below water.** A clearing maneuver which is too forceful can cause damage inside the ear by rupturing the round window, which seals off the fluid-filled inner ear. This results in hearing loss and may require surgery for repair. Avoid blowing too hard when equalizing.

**4. B. A perforated eardrum.** A fin moving water forcefully near your ear can create a pressure wave powerful enough to cause the eardrum to rupture inward: There is no corresponding force behind the eardrum to offset the rapid increase in pressure. Wearing a hood can prevent this problem.

**5. D. All of the above.** Water, far from pure and colder than body temperature, rushes into the middle ear when the eardrum ruptures and causes vertigo until warmed to body temperature. Some hearing loss will occur and an infection could very well develop. Seek medical attention for any ear injury resulting in abnormal hearing.

**6. A. Vertigo.** When the pressure does not drop evenly in both ears during ascent, vertigo can occur. It is much more pronounced when there is a sudden drop in pressure in one ear. When the ascent is slowed or stopped, the vertigo tends to subside.

**7. C. Reverse block.** Fortunately, the inability of air to escape from the middle ear is uncommon, probably because it is much harder to get air into the area than for it to get out. If pain is felt in the ears during ascent, slow or stop the ascent and try sucking against closed mouth or nostrils.

**8. A. Temporary vertigo.** This is called "caloric stimulation" and can cause vertigo by various means, including convection currents in the fluids of the inner ear. For this reason it is desirable to wear a snugly (not tightly) fitting hood while diving.

**9. B. Gently and frequently.** The old saying, "Equalize early and often," is good advice. It is even recommended to slightly overpressurize the ears just before descent and to keep ahead of the increasing pressure during descent. The first 10 to 15 feet is the most difficult and critical area for equalization. Take it easy and don't ignore pain.

**10. C. Dry the ear canals thoroughly.** In most instances, the best treatment for ears after diving is rinsing with fresh water only and thoroughly drying them. In saturation diving it was found the only way ear infections could be prevented was to dry the ears with a hair dryer after each dive.

*How many of these problems have you experienced? Did you know what caused them and how to handle them? Knowledge of ear anatomy and physiology can help you prevent a topsy-turvy world underwater. Numerous excellent books of dive medicine and physiology are available. In reading them, you will learn many other interesting facts to make you a better diver.*



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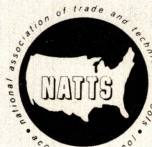
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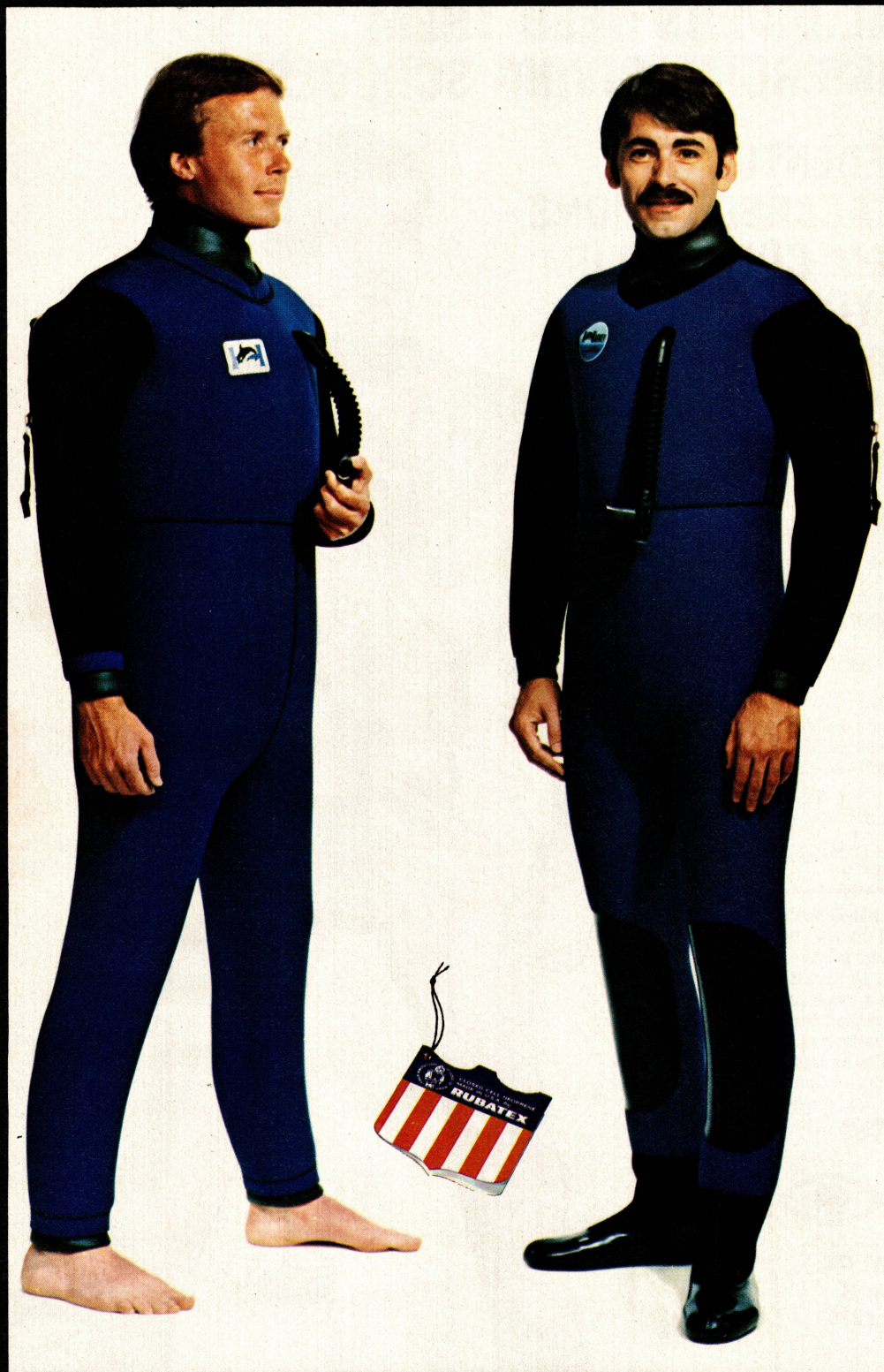
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# SDMA'S Summer Shopper's Guide

A preview of  
new products presented  
at the 1979 DEMA show

By Geri Murphy

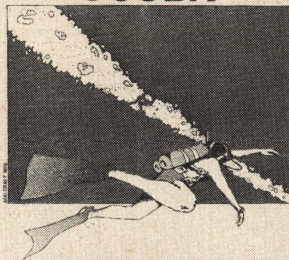
**W**ith the summer diving season just around the corner, it's time to take stock of your underwater equipment and gear up for the trips ahead. Whether you're an old salt searching for a replacement for that tired regulator that has seen too many miles, or a newly certified diver eager to become fully outfitted, the following shopping guide could provide some inspiration in equipment selection.

Almost all of the products shown on the following pages are new for 1979 and were just recently introduced at the annual Diving Equipment Manufacturers Association (DEMA) Trade Show for dive store dealers. Thus far it has been a boom year in the world of diving, for never have so many equipment

manufacturers introduced such an overwhelming selection of new gear. The items featured in this article are a small sampling of the hundreds of products introduced and are designed to tempt and delight the dive gear shopper.

If you are interested in obtaining more information about the full line of products offered by these manufacturers, you'll find a handy guide of company names and addresses listed at the end of this article. Most of these will be happy to send you more information about their products or direct you to a retail dive shop which carries their line of products. Let's face it — half the fun of diving is buying the equipment, and this year is truly a shopper's delight!

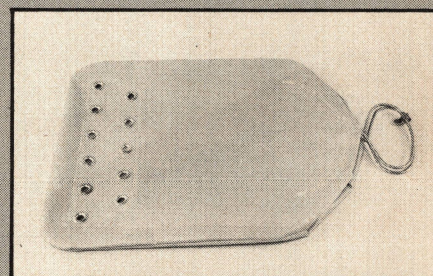
## SCUBA



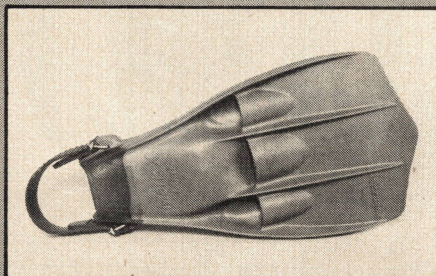
Addcraft Screeners  
T-Shirts (\$4.00-\$6.00)



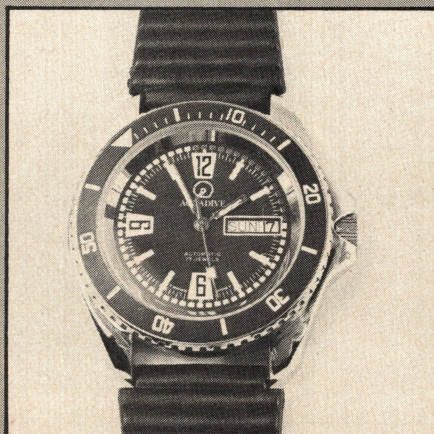
Aqua-Craft, Inc.  
Aqua-Lite (\$79.50)



Aquarius Mfg. Co.  
Tool Bag (\$12.50)



AMF Voit/Swimaster  
Gum Rubber Fins (\$32.00)



Aquavive, Inc.  
Watch Model 872 (\$170.00)



Belcher Ind., Inc.  
Bangstick I (\$129.95)



# Shopper's Guide



Isotek Creations Int.  
Wetsuit Boots (\$43.00)



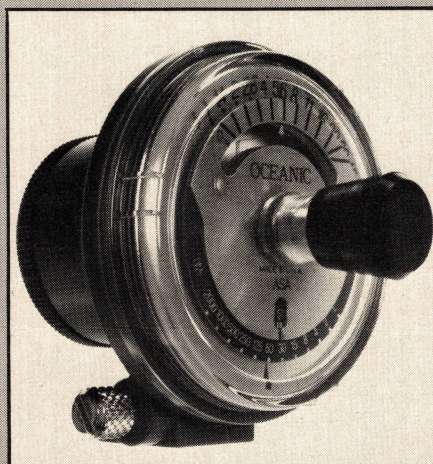
Parkway Fabricators  
Drysuit Undergarment (\$150.00)



Nautek, Inc.  
Mask Defogger (\$2.25-\$3.95)



Pelican Products, Inc.  
Pelican Bag (\$34.95)



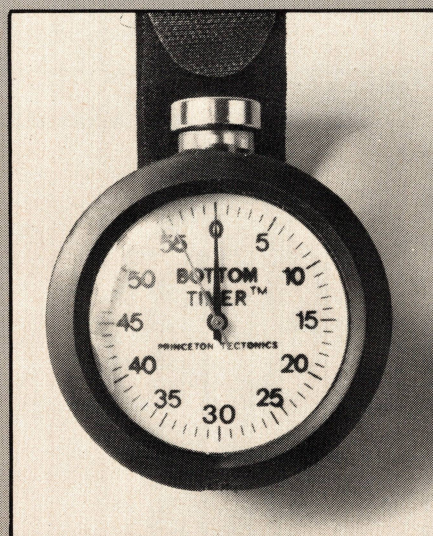
Farallon/Oceanic  
Light Meter (\$94.50)



Pennform Plastic Prod.  
Regulator Bag (\$12.50)



Salty T's  
T-Shirts (\$6.00)

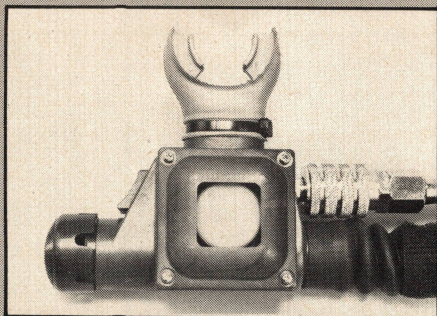


Princeton Tectonics  
Bottom Timer 400 (\$59.95)



SeaQuest, Inc.  
BC Pack (\$119.50)

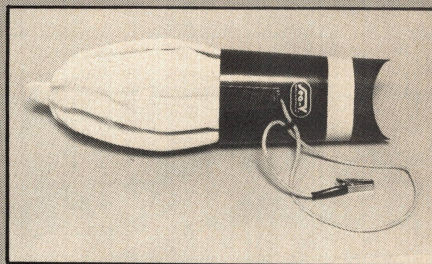




**Scubapro**  
**AIR Inflation Regulator (\$130.00)**



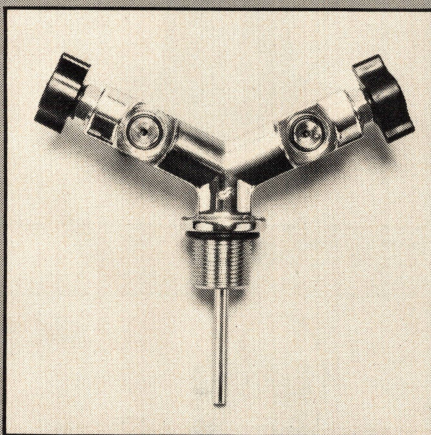
**Scuba Spec, Inc.**  
**Removable Optical Lens (\$35.00)**



**Sea Sonics**  
**Sea Voice (\$24.95)**



**Seapro, Inc.**  
**BC Jacket (\$220.00)**



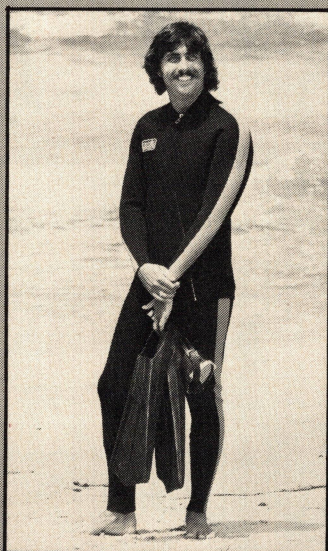
**Sherwood Selpac Corp.**  
**Tank Valve (\$50.00)**



**Sonic Research**  
**Lighting System (\$639.00)**



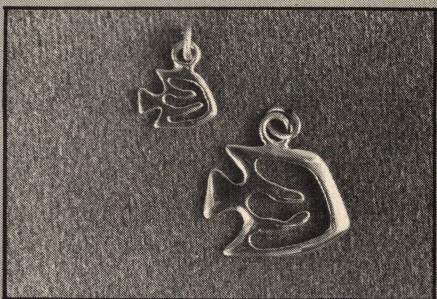
**Sports Divers Mfg.**  
**Swimmer's Ear Solution (\$4.95)**



**Sea Suits**  
**Macho Suit (\$155.00)**



**Seatec**  
**Baby Bluefin (\$200.00)**



**Robert L. Straight Co.**  
**Sea Symbols Jewelry (\$25.00 & up)**



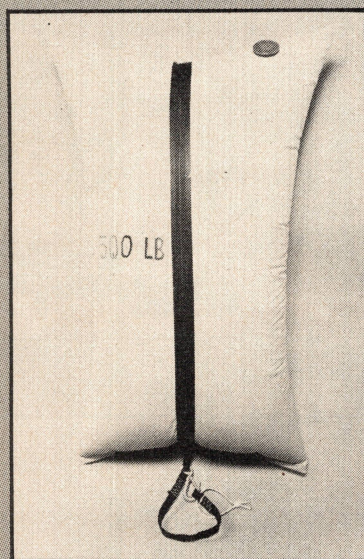
**Scott-John Ind.**  
**Pro Dive Bag (\$31.95)**



# Shopper's Guide



Bayfront Ind., Inc.  
License Plate (\$4.75)



Carter Bag Company  
500 lb. Lift Bag (\$80.00)



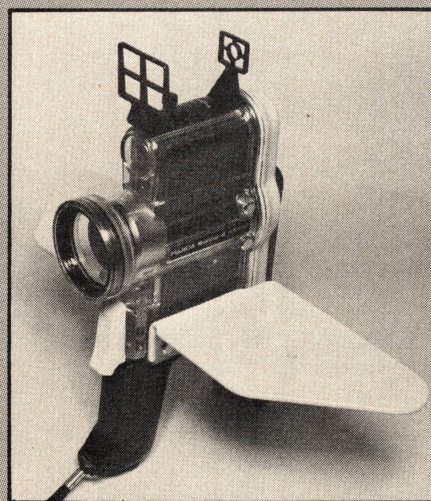
Cressi-Sub  
Pluma Lux Facemask (\$24.95)



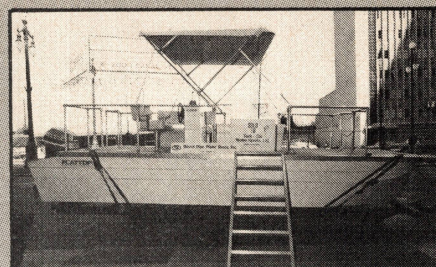
Bluewater Wetsuits  
French Cut Jacket (\$72.00)



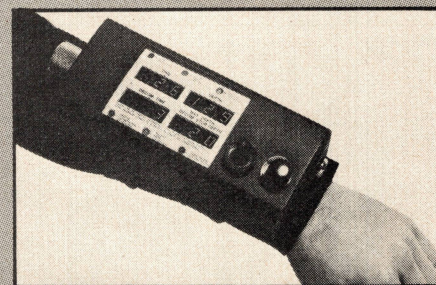
Conquest Marketing Co.  
Wet Tape U/W Recorder (\$274.00)



Fuji Photo Film, USA  
Fujica Marine-8 AX100 (\$89.95)



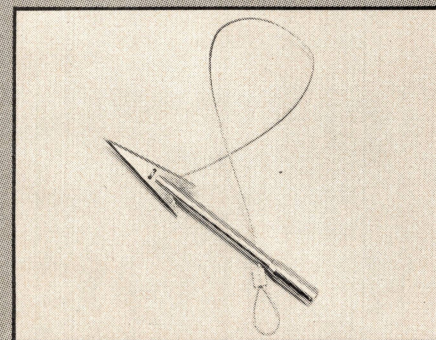
Bristol Bluewater Boats  
Reef Runner (\$6995.00)



Dacor Corporation  
Decompression Computer (\$425.00)



Chronosport, Inc.  
Mini-Dive Watch (\$129.95)

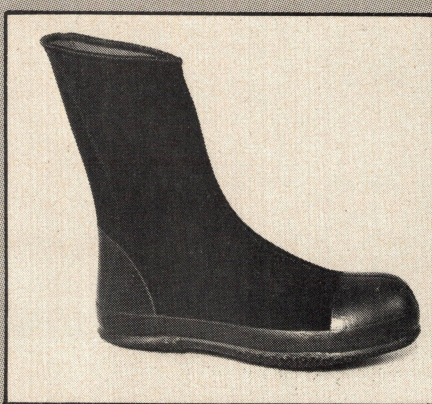


Div-Ak, Inc.  
Razor Tip Spear Point (\$19.95)

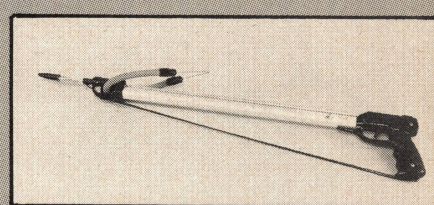




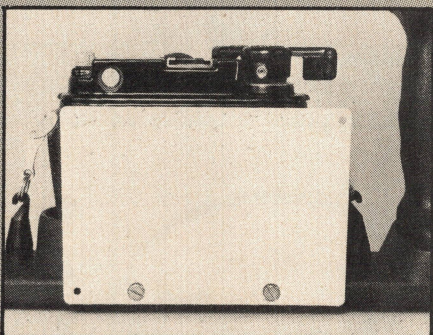
**Divetime Industries**  
Divemaster Watch (\$129.95)



**Harvey's Wetsuits**  
Heavy Duty Boots (\$24.00)



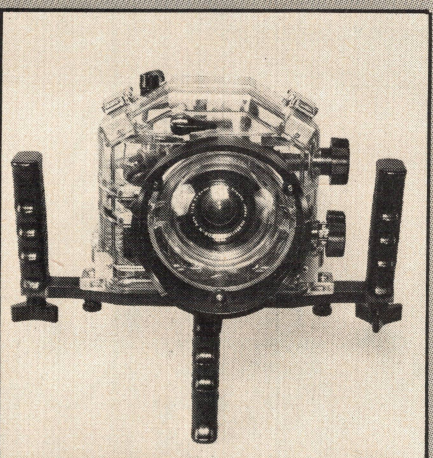
**Global Mfg. Corp.**  
Dynaskinner Jr. Speargun (\$38.00)



**Glenn Beall Ind., Inc.**  
Nikonos Slate (\$5.00)



**Scubamaster**  
Rechargeable Battery (\$31.00)



**Ikelite U/W Systems**  
SLR-MD36 Housing (\$229.95)



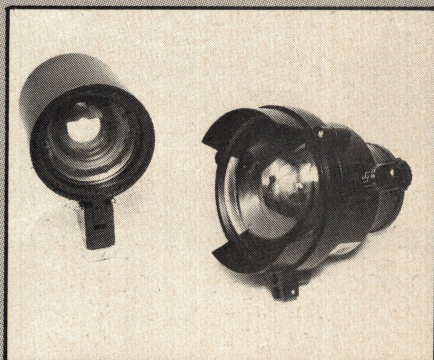
**Henderson Aquatics, Inc.**  
Farmer John (\$212.00)



**International Divers Inc.**  
Gear Bag (\$28.00)



**Imperial Mfg. Co.**  
Bolo Boots (\$25.90)



**Leach Photo Systems**  
Wide Lens 20 & Viewer (\$590.00)



**Mares, USA**  
Hawaiian Mask (\$13.00)



# Shopper's Guide



**Sportsways**  
Sub-Jac #7000 (\$220.00)



**Tadco**  
Kayak (\$465.00)



**Venice T-shirts**  
T-Shirt Screeners (\$6.00)



**Sunshine Designs**  
Jewelry



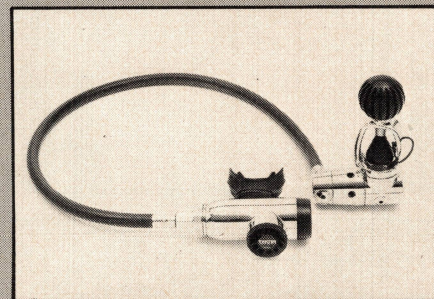
**Subsalue Ind., Inc.**  
Lift Bags (\$26.00 & up)



**Undersea Systems, Inc.**  
Viking Suit (\$510.00)



**Time Unlimited**  
Time Capsule (\$59.95)

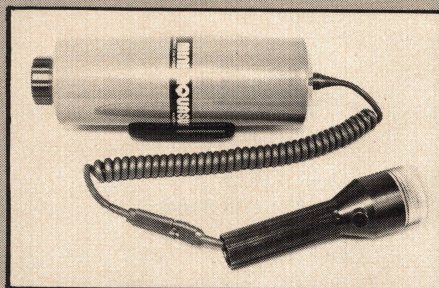


**Tekna**  
T-2100 Regulator (\$189.95)

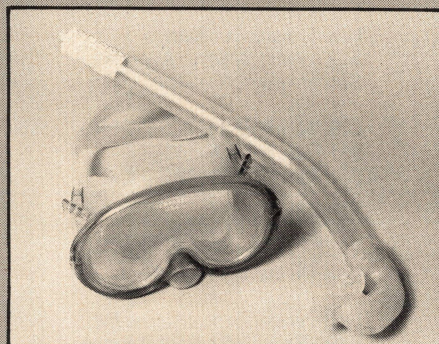


**U.S. Divers Co.**  
Sea Otter BC (\$199.99)





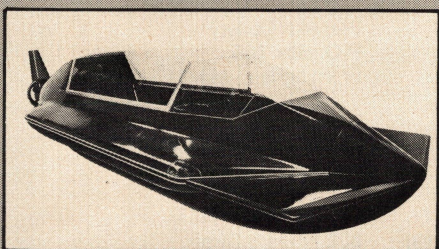
Underwater Kinetics  
Mini Aqua-Sun (\$265.00)



White Stag  
Mask & Snorkel (\$44.50)



World Divers  
Gear Carrier (\$49.95)



Underwater Propulsions, Inc.  
DDV-300 (\$16,500.00)



White's Water Wear  
A.D.S. Wetsuit (\$390.00)



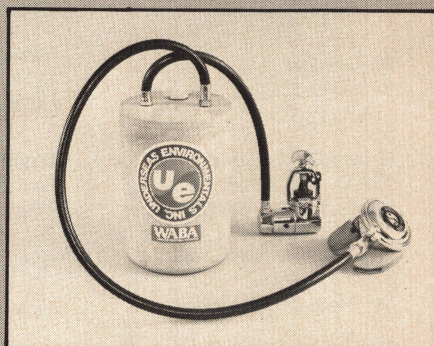
Westridge Mfg.  
Lg. Travel Pack (\$69.95)



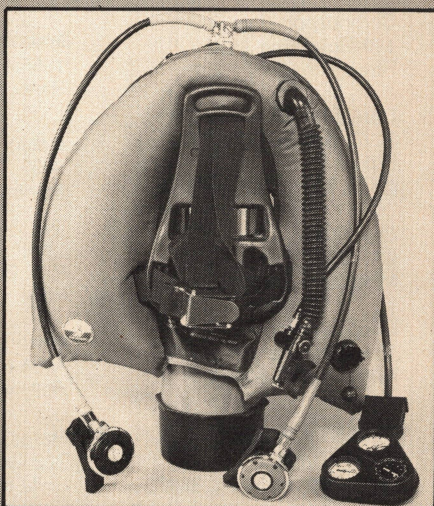
Wenoka Cutlery  
Pro Dive Knives (\$45.00 each)



U.S. Nemrod, Inc.  
Push-Lift-S BC (\$265.00)



Underseas Environmentals Inc.  
WABA (\$189.00)



Sub Aquatic Systems  
Back Buoyancy Sys. 8013 (\$140.00)



# Shopper's Guide

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Addcraft Screeners  
P.O. Box 9286  
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Florida 32407

AMF Voit/Swimaster  
3801 So. Harbor Blvd.  
Santa Ana, CA 92704

Aqua-Craft, Inc.  
3280 Kurtz Street  
San Diego, CA 92110

AquaDive Inc.  
3600 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Aquarius Mfg. Co.  
60 Griffin Road  
Hudson, NH 03051

Bayfront Ind., Inc.  
4225 Ponce DeLeon Blvd.  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Bayley Suit, Inc.  
900 So. Fortuna Blvd.  
Fortuna, CA 95540

Belcher Ind., Inc.  
P.O. Box 557412  
Miami, FL 33155

Bluewater Wetsuits  
1804 - 14th Street  
Santa Monica, CA 90404

Bristol Bluewater Boats  
270 Ely Avenue  
So. Norwalk, CT 06854

Carter Bag Company  
29500 Green River Gorge Rd.  
Enumclaw, WA 98022

Chronosport, Inc.  
119 Rowayton Ave.  
Rowayton, CT 06853

Conquest Marketing Co., Inc.  
3176 Pullman St.  
Suite 110  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Cressi-Sub  
971 S.W. First Street  
Miami, FL 33130

Dacor Corporation  
161 Northfield Rd.  
Northfield, IL 60093

Delta Boat Works  
Scallop Drive  
Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

Div-Ak, Inc.  
158 Brentwood Rd.  
Bayshore, NY 11706

Divetime Industries  
337 West John Street  
Hicksville, NY 11801

Farallon/Oceanic  
1333 Old County Road  
Belmont, CA 94002

Fitz-Wright Wetsuits  
17919 Roan Place  
Surrey, BC  
Canada V3S 5K1

Fuji Photo Film, USA  
350 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10001

General Diving Corp.  
500 West 18th Street  
Hialeah, FL 33010

Glenn Beall Ind., Inc.  
887 So. Riverside Drive  
Gurnee, IL 60031

Global Mfg. Corp.  
1675 So. 43rd Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53214

Harvey's Wetsuits  
2505 So. 252nd Street  
Kent, WA 98031

Hawaiian Wetsuits  
1514-A Kona Street  
Honolulu, HI 96814

Henderson Aquatics, Inc.  
Buck & Sassafras Sts.  
Millville, NJ 08332

Ikelite U/W Systems  
P.O. Box 88100  
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Imperial Mfg. Co.  
P.O. Box 4119  
Bremerton, WA 98310

International Divers, Inc.  
13659 East Rosecrans Ave.  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Isoteq Creations International  
9850 Tolhurst — Suite 201  
Montreal, Canada H3L228

Leach U/W Photo Systems  
P.O. Box 75  
Keno, OR 97627

Mako Lady Jewelry  
4408 Madison Street  
Hollywood, FL 33021

Mares, USA  
722 Genevieve Street  
Suite M  
Solana Beach, CA 92075

Nautek, Inc.  
P.O. Box 12673  
Lake Park, FL 33403

Parkway Fabricators  
241 Raritan Street  
So. Amboy, NJ 08879

Pelican Products, Inc.  
23763 Madison Street  
Torrance, CA 90505

Pennform Plastic Prod., Inc.  
365 Mulberry Street  
Wyandotte, MI 48192

Portman Marine, Inc.  
511 Southeast 32nd Court  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316

Princeton Tectonics  
P.O. Box 764  
Hightstown, NJ 08520

Salty T's  
P.O. Box 86  
Daytona Beach, FL 32015

Scubapro  
3105 East Harcourt St.  
Compton, CA 90221

Scubamaster  
P.O. Box 8030  
Compton, CA 90220

Scuba Spec, Inc.  
202-A East Canton St.  
Savannah, GA 31401

SeaQuest, Inc.  
722 Genevieve St.  
Solana Beach, CA 92075

Sea Sonics  
P.O. Box 94458  
Schaumburg, IL 60195

Sea Suits of California  
837 West 18th Street  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Seapro, Inc.  
18030 So. Euclid  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Seatec  
P.O. Box 1109  
Orange, CA 92666

Sherwood Selpac Corp.  
120 Church Street  
Lockport, NY 14094

Sonic Research  
5111 Santa Fe Street  
Suite H  
San Diego, CA 92109

Sport Divers Manufacturing  
1923 Northeast 150th St.  
Miami, FL 33181

Sportsways  
P.O. Box 2407  
Huntington Park, CA 90255

Robert L. Straight Co.  
8439 Barkley Drive  
Houston, TX 77017

Sub-Aquatic Systems  
530 Sixth Street  
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

Subsalve Ind. Inc.  
P.O. Box 9287  
Providence, RI 02940

Sunshine Designs  
P.O. Box 2616  
Key West, FL 33040

Tadco  
785 West 17th Street  
Suite F  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Tekna  
3549 Haven Avenue  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

U.S. Divers Company  
3323 West Warner Avenue  
Santa Ana, CA 92702

U.S. Nemrod, Inc.  
2315 Whitney Avenue  
Hamden, CT 06518

Underwater Kinetics  
7052 Convoy Street  
San Diego, CA 92111

Underwater Propulsions, Inc.  
5409 South 101 East Avenue  
Tulsa, OK 74145

Undersea Systems, Inc.  
108 West Main Street  
Bay Shore, NY 11706

Underseas Environmentals, Inc.  
131 E. Redwood Street  
Suite 300S  
Baltimore, MD 21202

Venice T-Shirts  
621 So. Hindry  
Inglewood, CA 90301

A. M. Weiss Company  
250 East 17th Street  
Suite I  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Wenoka Cutlery  
P.O. Box 765  
Framingham, MA 01701

Westridge Mfg.  
11920 W. Olympic Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90064

White's Water Wear  
832 Figgard Street  
Victoria, BC  
Canada V8R 1S1

White's Electronics Inc.  
1011 Pleasant Valley Rd.  
Sweet Home, OR 97386

White Stag  
P.O. Box 5308  
Carson, CA 90749

World Divers  
P.O. Box 334  
Oxford, OH 45056

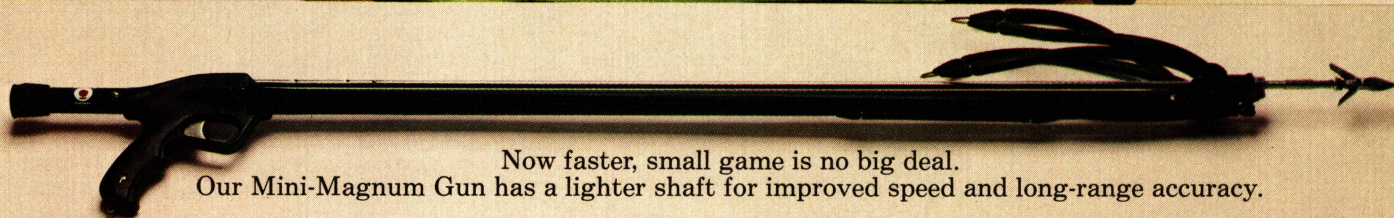


# We've made changes from head to toe.

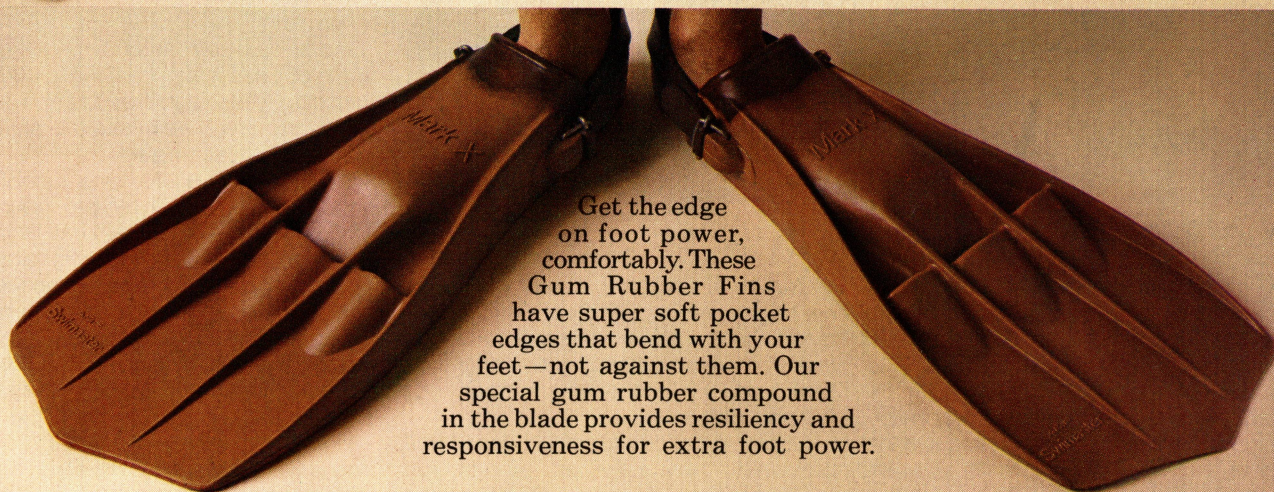


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By Terry Griffin

Illustration by Gordon W. Harrison

**H**ow to make money diving appears to be a mystery to some. But, one sure way to do it is to dive for golf balls.

**Approaching a Golf Pro Shop.** Find out the name of the golf pro who manages the local shop; make an appointment with him at his convenience. On the day of your appointment, make your entrance in a professional manner: Neat, clean and, most of all, dressed like a professional. That first impression is an important one. Also, take along a resume of your dive experience and your dive credentials. You must convince the pro that you are a confident, "professional" diver.

Convince the pro that your intentions are honorable. Explain clearly that you intend to simply retrieve the golf balls, and that you are not planning to bring your dive buddies onto private property for fun and games.

Charge a flat rate for all grades of golf balls. You may make an offer of 10¢ to 20¢ per ball. I do not suggest charging any more or you may be out of business before you get started.

Never take the pro for granted. Although he has accepted your offer, give him a call each time you plan to work. Never show up unannounced. Another

important item to remember: Do not call the pro early in the morning, this is when he is the busiest.

**Basic Equipment.** In addition to basic scuba equipment, the following items are a must: compass (the best), mesh bag (large), onion bags (large), rubber boat (one-man), safety hard hat, ear cleaner (post dive), vehicle windshield protector, drinking water and/or coffee.

The mesh bag is used to carry the balls while you're diving. Onion bags are for delivering the balls to the pro shop. A large bag will hold approximately 500.

A rubber boat is optional. I prefer not to use it, but sometimes, on large bodies of water, it is necessary to dump my full mesh bag.

While you're above water wear a hard hat: Golf balls pack a terrific punch in flight. Also, if your vehicle is in a flight path, place some plywood over your windshield for protection.

**Start the Day Right.** Because golfers play early in the morning, it is best not to start your work until after 10:00 am. This practice will allow our friends (who are making us wealthy) to finish the first nine holes and will cause less conflict between diver and golfer.

Learn golf etiquette or you may find yourself in big trouble! Many golfers play for money, and the stakes may be several thousand dollars per hole. If you are the culprit who caused a shot to go wrong, you may soon be the object of a scuba S & R team. In other words, maintain a low profile around golfers.

Lake balls are the property of the pro shop; do not sell or give away balls to individuals. Pros have occasionally sent golfers out to bait me — to test my honesty.

While collecting golf balls, keep your head at least two feet underwater to avoid being hit by those powerful projectiles. Also, golf balls have a habit of falling into clusters. Find this pattern and you've hit pay dirt.

Work carefully around pond grass. Some of it has a fine, hair-like texture and can clog your regulator second stage. Worse yet, if you swim into this stuff, you may become entangled.

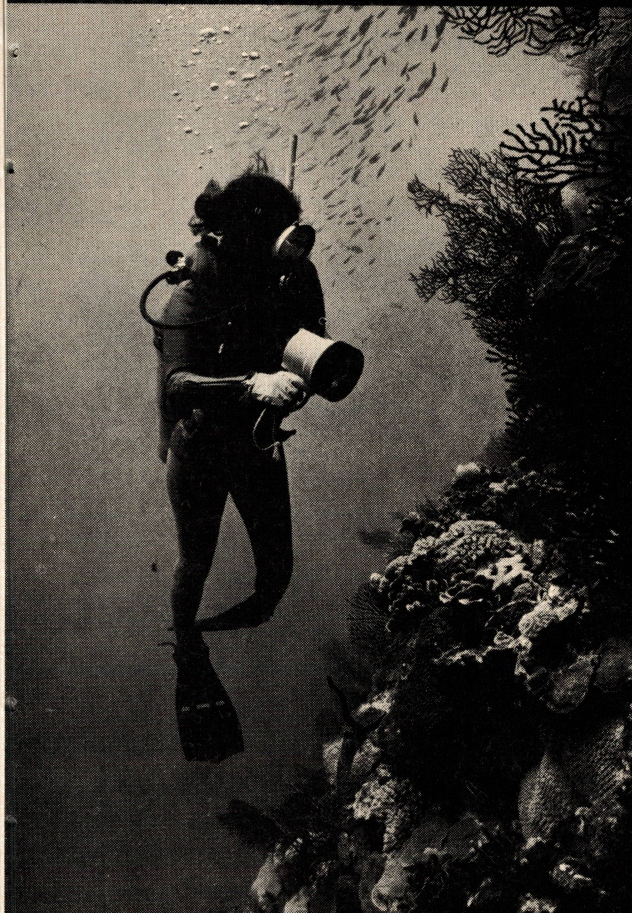
**Personal P. R.** To help establish a good relationship with the pro, return any golf course equipment that has landed in the water. This may include flags, tee markers, golf clubs, and an occasional golf cart. I do not charge for this service. I usually set certain days aside to go looking for this stuff. This is my fun dive.

After you have completed your job, return the balls to the pro shop the same day. My invoices are pre-typed so that all I do is write in the quantity retrieved, dollar amount, and have the pro sign the invoice.

**Is It All Worth It?** Yes. I have friends, working part time retrieving golf balls, who make between \$5,000 and \$15,000 per year. Some heavies make in excess of \$60,000.



# The more you know --- the better you feel



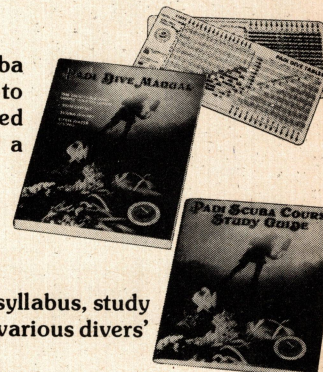
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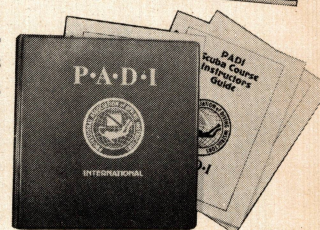


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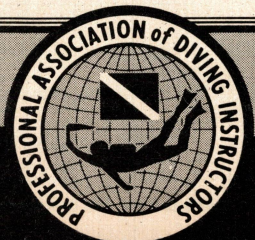
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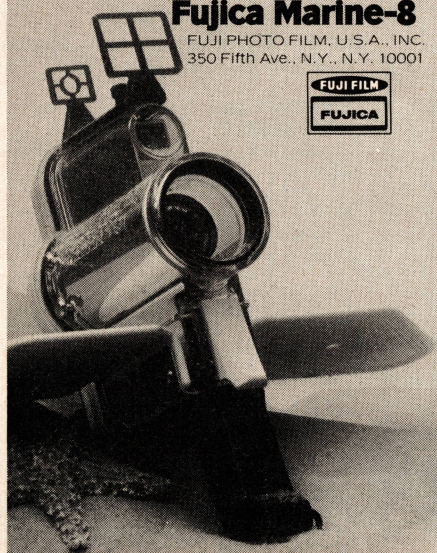
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## GREENSTONE AWARD NOMINATIONS OPEN

The Greenstone Award selection committee is now accepting nominations for the 1979 recipient. The Leonard Greenstone Diving Safety Award was designed to encourage contributions toward safety in all aspects of diving and is open to all persons throughout the world. The award is administered by NAUI, but membership within the organization is not required. Members of the award selection committee are not eligible.



The award is given, usually once a year, for the most outstanding contribution toward sport diving safety. Additionally, the award is intended to encourage development of all forms of safety programs, equipment and devices.

Nominations for the 1979 recipient must be submitted for committee consideration by July 1, 1979. The award will be presented in conjunction with NAUI's IQ11, October 11-14, 1979, in Houston.

For information contact: Judy Pierce, Greenstone Award Selection Committee, P.O. Box 630, Colton, CA 92324.

## PHOTO CONTEST

The PADI Training Facility Program has announced its 1979 Underwater Photography Search/Competition, which will run from July 1, 1979 to October 31, 1979. Diving's best amateur underwater photographs will be used in PADI's *Undersea Journal* and featured in a photography exhibit at the California Underwater Photo Expo '80 in March of next year. Big prizes, including a dive trip to

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San Salvador Island, will be given for winning photographs.

Applicants may enter as many underwater photos (color transparencies and/or B/W prints) as they like at any participating PADI Training Facility. Each participating PADI Training Facility will offer prizes for local competition. Local winning photos will be sent to PADI Headquarters for international judging. Ten regional winners and a grand prize winner will be announced at Underwater Photo Expo '80 in Long Beach, CA.

For details, enrollment forms, and a list of PADI Training Facilities, contact: Al Hornsby, PADI Training Facility Director, 2064 N. Bush Street, Santa Ana, California 92706. >📷

### CDA GRADUATION

On March 31, 1979, Coastal Diving Academy, a commercial diver training facility located in Bay Shore, New York, presented its January graduating class



with their diplomas in Deep Sea Commercial Diving. The entire event was held underwater.

Robert J. Shourot, the academy's founder, who hosted the graduation said, "... it's a grand way to end the course after 12 weeks of hard work."

The school's director, Gary Parsons, presented the students with their diplomas at the bottom of the training tank, while an audience watched the event, topside, on TV. A gala party followed. >📷

### MICROSIGHT MAGNIFYING LENS

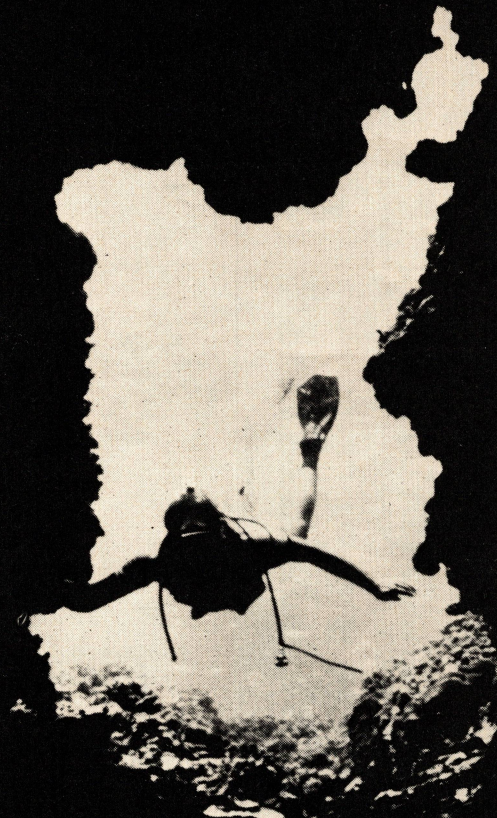
The Microsight is a small magnifying lens which glues to the inside of a mask faceplate and makes gauges and small things easier to see. A plano-convex disk, it is just one inch in diameter.

Microsight was originally designed to work as bifocals for older divers, but is beneficial to all who want to really see the underwater world. It brings everything from miniature marine life to camera dials and gauges up close. Microsight is ideal for divers who have trouble reading the tiny numbers on photo equipment.

The lens is glued to the faceplate with a clear silicone sealer. Because it is positioned out of the normal line of sight, it does not interfere with the viewing of distant objects.

Microsight is available for \$3.50, plus \$1 per total order for shipping and handling from: Waterlou Enterprises, Box 125, Mountainville, New York 10953. >📷

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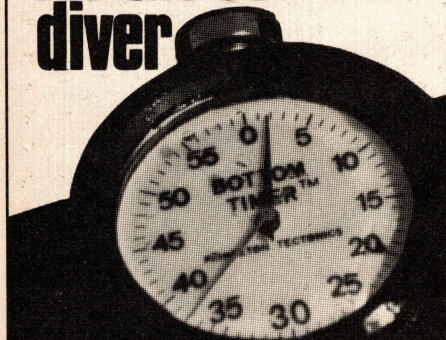
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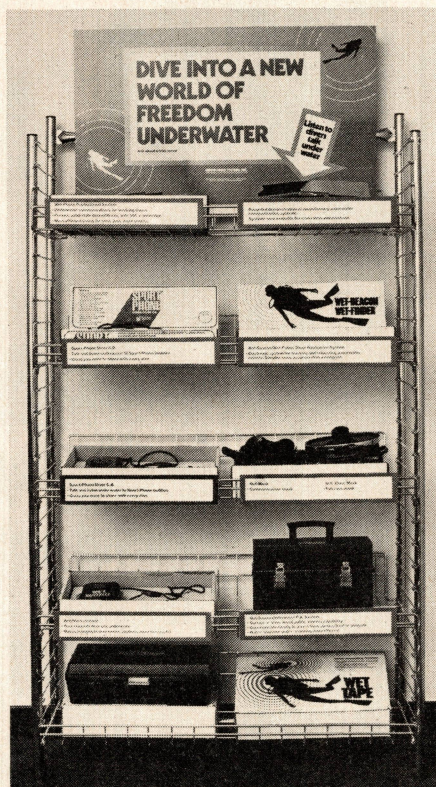
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## U/W COMMUNICATIONS RENTAL PLAN

A program designed to encourage more divers to try underwater communication is now being offered by Conquest Marketing Company, Inc., exclusive distributors of Sound Wave Systems underwater communication equipment. The new Trial-Rental Program combines a rental offer for the diver with an in-store merchandising display and buy-back guarantee for the dive shop owner.

"We wanted to make it as easy as possible for people to try underwater communication," explained Cal Calligaro, president of Conquest Marketing. "Once



divers have experienced talking and listening underwater, we think they'll want their own system."

So confident is Calligaro that the program will be profitable for dive shops, he is offering shop owners a one-year, 85 percent buy-back guarantee.

Included in the merchandising plan for the dive shops are: free use of an in-store display rack, free demo tape, free cassette tape player, special cash price and 3 month or 6 month extended payment.

Conquest Marketing sales representatives will be available to dive shops on request to provide instruction in the proper use of the Sound Wave Systems equipment, Calligaro said.

For information on the Trial-Rental Program, contact: Conquest Marketing Company, Inc., 3176 Pullman St., Suite 110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.



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# San Francisco beach diving

**A HELPFUL GUIDE  
TO DIVING THE BEACHES  
OF NORTHERN AND  
CENTRAL CALIFORNIA  
BY BEVERLY DALBY**

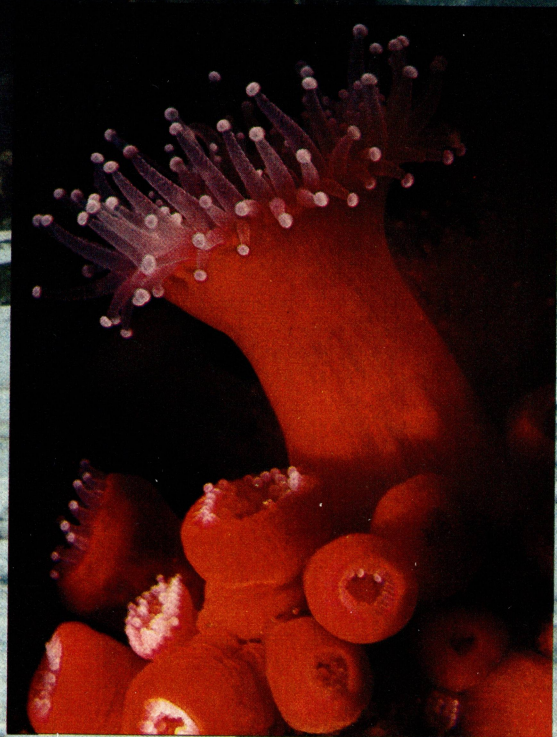
San Francisco — a city of many suits. Jumpsuits and pin-striped suits. Sweatsuits and birthday suits. And, of all suits, wetsuits. Yes, wetsuits in the city so often shrouded in fog. The city renowned for its frosted, filigreed gables, 90 degree streets and Chinatown. The city whose name spells romance. The city revered as "The City." This many-faceted, kaleidoscopic metropolis is also the gateway to some of the finest diving in the world. And San

Franciscans who by weekday are stockbrokers and opera goers, child counselors, and organic gardeners, bridge builders and cable car conductors are, by weekend, divers.

Amid the elegant restaurants, jazz clubs and silver shops are numerous dive shops. And among a population as varied as one could imagine are hundreds of certified divers who head out each weekend to find adventure both north and south of the "City by the Bay."

To reach their favorite dive spots, Bay Area dive enthusiasts travel two and one-half to three hours — north to the rugged Sonoma Coast, a free diver's dream come true, and south to the Monterey Peninsula, with its incredible array of marine life and a variety of sites to suit every diver's needs. Bringing along family, friends, and canine companions, these spirited sport divers turn just about any weekend into a dive trip extraordinaire. Camping along the Sonoma Coast, they





photographs by Rodney Anton

**Beauty and the beast. Both north and south of the famed "City by the Bay," the rugged wave-swept California coast provides action and a brilliant, rich underwater environment.**

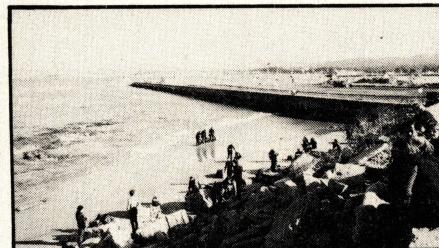




**Cannery Row in the city of Monterey:** A popular and heavily dived area with well protected beaches and a number of diver-related regulations. Both McAbee Beach (above right) and the Breakwater (right) offer beautiful underwater scenery, a gently sloping bottom and thick kelp beds close to shore.



photographs by Bill O'Neil



free dive for abalone and lingcod and have a festive "ab fry" around the campfire at night. And, in Monterey, after shooting several rolls of film along sheltered rocky coves, they may stroll through romantic groves of cypress or enjoy a delicious seafood supper at Cannery Row or Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Indeed, the wealth to be found in the waters off California's northern and central coast rivals the riches of the redwoods and the high Sierras. The massive, southwardly moving California Current, together with the coastal upwelling of cold, nutrient rich sub-surface water, creates a marine environment so rich in plant life, invertebrates, fish and mammals that it nearly boggles the mind. Abalone are particularly thick along the Sonoma Coast since, north of Yankee Point (Monterey County), scuba gear may not be used to take them.

But, while the underwater environment is beautiful, the water is cold and the terrain rugged. Those who dive here are, of necessity, a rugged and determined lot. No safe diving takes place in San Francisco Bay because of strong tidal currents, heavy boat traffic and poor visibility. Veteran local divers will also advise you not to dive "the triangle" — the area from Half Moon Bay to Tomales Bay and out to the Farallon Islands. Like the bay, the triangle is full of hazards and not conducive to safe diving. So, for the best diving around, Bay Area beach divers travel out of the city.

## MONTEREY PENINSULA

The Monterey Peninsula, from Cannery Row to Point Lobos, is by far the most popular and heavily dived area in all of northern and central California. An estimated 80 percent of all sport diving from Pismo Beach to the Oregon Border is conducted here. And, with reason. Monterey offers a wide variety of diving, from rocky coves to wide sandy beaches and incredible submarine canyons.

Visibility along the entire Monterey Peninsula is generally quite good. Within Monterey Bay, it averages around 25 feet and often reaches 40 or 50 feet. Visibility in Carmel Bay and along Point Lobos is generally better, averaging 30 to 40 feet and often reaching 70 to 80 feet. However, in Carmel, along with greater visibility, you also get larger surf and stronger currents. Water temperatures are chilly throughout most of the year, with surface temperatures averaging between 48°F and 52°F. (Note: Peninsula weather conditions may change rapidly. So be sure to take accurate bearings and plan alternate exits should the fog roll in or the surf come up during your dive. It's best to dive early in the morning, before winds and surf get rowdy.)

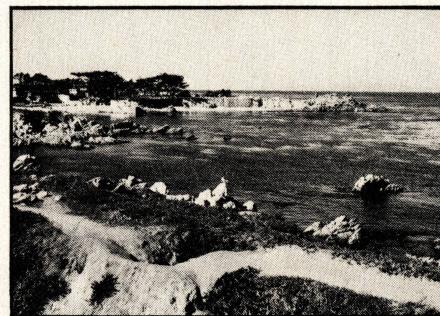
When diving the Monterey kelp beds, you may find yourself staring face-to-face with a controversial member of this rich marine environment, the sea otter (*Enhydra lutris*). These furry marine carnivores have become the subject of a great debate since they are now protected by law and seem to be proliferating at a rapid rate. Many sport and commercial divers who harvest abalone, urchins, crabs and pismo clams feel the otters have been eating more than their share. This group believes the otter population should be limited. Environmentalists, believing that the otter is still an endangered species with a right to its natural prey, want the animals protected.

In the meantime, otters are fun to photograph and to feed. To feed them most divers use squid, which can be purchased at Fisherman's Wharf in Monterey. Exercise caution, however: Otters have voracious appetites and can consume several pounds of squid within minutes. Some of the more aggressive critters may bite if you run out of food before they run out of appetite. Sea otters are covered under the 1972 Marine Mammal Protection Act, so do not harass or harm them in any way.

The Monterey Peninsula is indeed a wonderful place to dive. But, because the area is so heavily trafficked by divers, peninsula communities have put a number of regulations into effect (see box). Many of these diver-oriented laws are in a state of flux, so if you are planning to dive along the peninsula, be sure to check with local dive shop personnel for the latest information regarding dive laws as well as ocean conditions. And be sure to practice good "diver etiquette."

Consult the following list for the location of some of the Monterey Peninsula's most popular dive spots:

**The Breakwater** — A narrow, rubble beach located at the corner of Cannery Row and Foam Street in the city of Monterey. To the right of the beach is the prominent U.S. Coast Guard breakwater for which the beach is named. It's well protected, and a favorite spot for basic



**Lover's Point in the city of Pacific Grove**

photograph by Bob Widmann



**Monastery Beach near Carmel**

photograph by Bill O'Neil



classes and night divers, with easy access down a short flight of stairs. Pilings from an abandoned sardine cannery and small boulders lie along the shoreline. The inside edge of a large kelp bed (*Macrocystis*) almost touches shore. The bottom slopes gradually to about 60 feet, 400 yards out. Although visibility may not be as good as other Monterey spots, the scenery is colorful, sea otters are frequent visitors, and a large colony of sea lions lives at the far end of the breakwater. A small boat launching ramp (free) is located through the parking lot to the right of the access stairs. Parking (free) is available along the street and in the large adjacent lot. Chemical toilets sit at the far left end of the beach.

**McAbee Beach** (The Outrigger, Casa Maria's) — Located at the corner of Hoffman Street and Cannery Row between two restaurants (the Outrigger and Casa Maria's) is a well protected, heavily dived beach with an easy entry and beautiful underwater scenery. Lush growths of red algae cover large rocks offshore and the kelp is very thick. This is a good spot for photography, sightseeing and some spearfishing. Watch for surf breaking on the shallow reef to the left. Pay close attention to signs specifying diver loading and unloading areas. Park in lot one block up from Cannery Row. Pay on entry (50¢ for 5 hours; \$1 all day). Suit up at parking lot and walk to beach. No restroom facilities.

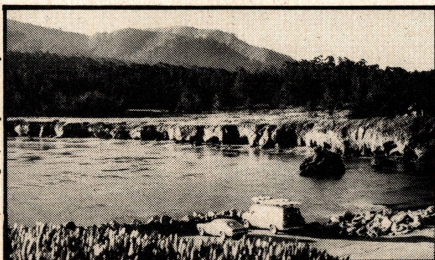
**Lover's Point** — Located on Ocean View Blvd. at the end of 17th Street in the city of Pacific Grove. Entry areas are located to the east ("cove side") and to the west ("ocean side") of the point. A popular spot for sightseeing, photography, check-outs and night diving. Marine life is prolific and it's also a marine refuge:

photograph by Michael Williams

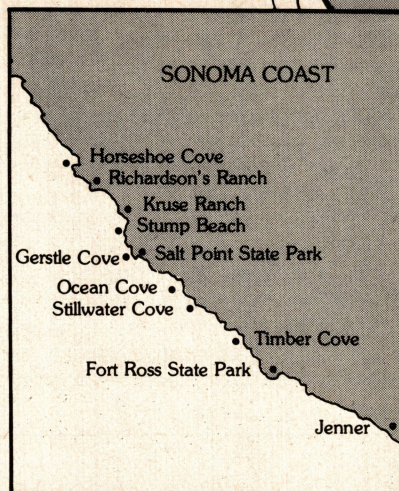


Sharon Williams and friend at Cannery Row

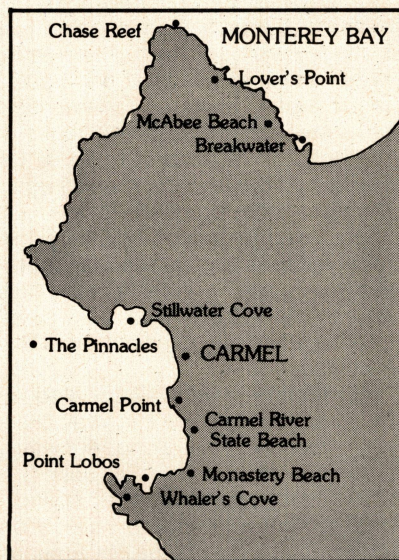
photograph by Rodney Anton



Whaler's Cove in Point Lobos State Park



**Sonoma Coast dive sites:** From San Francisco, take U.S. 101 north to the Russian River turn-off (Hwy 116) at Cotati. Travel northwest on Hwy 116 to Jenner and then follow Hwy 1 north.



**Monterey Peninsula dive sites:** Traveling from San Francisco, take U.S. 101 south to San Jose. At San Jose, take Hwy 17 south to Santa Cruz. At Santa Cruz, take Hwy 1 south to Monterey.

JENNER

SONOMA COAST

CALIFORNIA

COTATI

SONOMA

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN JOSE

SANTA CRUZ

MONTEREY BAY

MONTEREY

CARMEL



So, "look but don't touch." Cove side is protected by a short breakwater and has a wide, sloping sandy beach. Ocean side is rocky with stairs leading down to a boulder strewn beach. When diving the ocean side, head to the right (north) to find good diving at the end of the rocky point. Don't dive the ocean side during large surf. Submerged rocks along the shoreline can be hazardous. Park along the street (two hour free parking) or in the small lot overlooking the west (ocean) cove. Restrooms are located near a pleasant grassy park with cypress trees and picnic tables. This is a popular tourist spot with a glassbottom boat taking tours during the summer. Also during the crowded summer months, no classes or organized dive groups are allowed in the cove. Single buddy teams may enter here but should keep to the right of the concrete beach marker.

**Otter Cove** — Located about 5 blocks past Lover's Point on Ocean View Blvd. The U/W environment is similar to that found at Lover's Point but the area is less heavily dived. Large crabs, rays and schools of fish frequent the area. A sign with the divers flag marks the parking lot. Parking is free.

**Chase Reef** — Lies north of Point Pinos at the western edge of Monterey Bay. Wide open to the prevailing north-westerly swell, it's beautiful during calm periods but dangerous during rough weather. Because of the long swim (400 to 500 yards to the inner reef), it's most often reached by boat. A scenic spot for U/W photography, it has lots of kelp, rocky canyons and small caves along with colorful encrusting organisms, crabs, rays and game fish. (Note: Spearfishing is allowed in the Pacific Grove Marine Reserve if access is by boat. Speared fish or spearguns are not allowed across Pacific Grove beaches.) Park on the street near the corner of Coral and Ocean View. Main beach entrance to the reef is at the foot of Coral St. For experienced divers. No facilities.

**17 Mile Drive** — (The Pinnacles) — Entrances to 17 Mile Drive are located in Pacific Grove and Carmel. Entry fee is \$4. The only beach access along the drive is at Stillwater Cove (part of the privately owned Pebble Beach Country Club). With "connections" you can launch a small boat or diveboard here to reach the Pinnacles — a group of rocks reaching toward the ocean's surface west of Pescadero Point. Otherwise, the *Navillus I*, Monterey's only dive charter boat, will take you there. (Call (408) 446-2969 for trip information.) Visibility at the Pinnacles is often excellent and it's a beautiful spot for U/W photography, sightseeing and spearfishing.

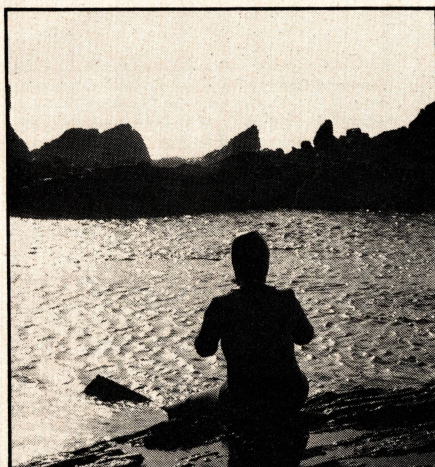
**Carmel Point** — Two spots located here are known for their colorful names but can be quite treacherous. They should be dived only during optimal

ocean conditions. The first spot is located off the "Copper Roof House" at the south end of Carmel City Beach near Carmel Point. Access is via stairs at the corner of Martin St. and Scenic Drive. Park (free) on the street. Enter off the wide sandy beach and swim to the left toward the point. Scenery all along the rocks is quite colorful. Access to the second spot, near the "Butterfly House," is down a cliff at the corner of Scenic Drive and Stewart Way. The beach is small and parking is difficult. Surf and currents can be hazardous.

**Carmel River State Beach** — A wide sandy beach located near the mouth of the Carmel River. This is another potentially hazardous spot. Dive only during calm conditions. Enter at the north end of

side the northside kelp bed. Canyon walls are steep, with shifting sand, and drop rapidly to extreme depths. Use caution and plan for depth and time. Save sufficient air for the trip back under the thick kelp. The beach is very steep, so entries and exits here can be very difficult. Timing is critical. This spot can be extremely dangerous and it is for experienced divers. It should be dived only during optimal ocean conditions. Restrooms and telephone are located at the south end of the beach. During the summer, parking is limited so come early. Be sure to lock your car. Or, better yet, have someone watch it. Pilferers are a big problem here.

**Point Lobos State Park** — Located one mile south of Monastery Beach on



photograph by Frank Blazie

The Sonoma Coast: A peaceful moment at Horse-shoe Cove (above). Hiking across a grassy field at Salt Point (above right). And Stillwater Cove (right).



photograph by Rick Tegeler



photograph by Sharon Williams

the beach near the rocks and swim toward the point for the best diving. A wash rock covered with corynactis and other encrusting organisms is located just inside the kelp bed. Halibut can be found in the sand with lingcod and sculpin in rocky areas. Sponges, anemones and other invertebrates color the rocks. Take Rio Road off Highway 1 to Santa Lucia. Turn left on Santa Lucia then left again on Carmello and proceed to the beach. There's a large parking lot (free) with restroom facilities and telephone. There are two entry areas: 1) Walk from the parking lot to the right (toward the rocky point); 2) Use the staircase at the corner of Scenic and Ocean View.

**Monastery Beach** — Located about four miles south of the Highway 68/Highway 1 junction. Park along Highway 1 on either side of the small "San Jose Creek" sign. During good weather, diving can be excellent with superb visibility and a variety of colorful marine life. Enter at the kelp beds located at the north and south ends of the beach; avoid the center of the beach. The south end is more protected. The head of a submarine canyon is located just beyond a large wash rock out-

Highway 1. The park entrance opens at 9:00 am. But, especially during the summer, it's best to get here much earlier: Only 10 buddy teams are allowed in the park at one time. Be sure to have your C-card, \$1.50 entry fee, and divers flag and float ready for the ranger. Follow the road to a small dirt parking lot at Whaler's Cove. A concrete ramp leading into the water makes access easy. The best diving is outside the cove to the left. Small inflatable boats or diveboards may be launched here for access to Bluefish Cove, located to the west of Whaler's. The entire Point Lobos area is an ecological reserve and all marine life, rocks, shells, etc. are protected. The U/W scenery here is quite beautiful, visibility is generally good, and it's a favorite spot for U/W photography. Seals, sea lions, sea otters, large fish and huge *Metridium* and *Tealia* anemones make this one of the peninsula's most exciting dives.

## SONOMA COAST

For Bay Area divers in the mood to "get away from it all," the rugged Sonoma Coast is an excellent retreat, offering spectacular scenery both above and



below the water. Winding along the two lane Coast Highway from Fort Ross to Stewart's Point, you'll pass numerous fine dive spots, some well known and some known only to the veteran free divers who've spent years getting acquainted with this amazing stretch of Northern California coastline.

Free diving is "in" along the North Coast because, except for a few protected coves, access to most of the good game spots requires a healthy hike across expansive grassy fields and down the precipitous cliffs overlooking the Pacific. Lush marine life, plentiful abalone and game fish are all within free diving range. However, there are three spots which are easily accessible to tank divers and offer good diving. Timber Cove, Stillwater Cove, and Gerstle Cove (in Salt Point State Park) are generally protected from the prevailing ocean swells and provide an interesting environment for those who prefer to take pictures or sightsee at a leisurely pace.

The majority of North Coast diving activity takes place from Fort Ross (12 miles north of Jenner) to the Harold Richardson Ranch (just south of Stewart's Point). South of Fort Ross, from Jenner to Bodega Bay, beaches are wide open to the west and northwest, visibility is generally poor, surf and currents can be dangerous and the area is neither suitable nor easily accessible for diving. North of Stewart's Point is Sea Ranch, a modern resort and residential community which allows beach access only to guests and local property owners.

Along the 15 mile stretch of coastline from Fort Ross to Richardson's Ranch is some excellent diving. Many well-traveled, veteran divers believe there are few dive spots in the world that rival the beauty of the underwater flora and fauna found here. Brilliant multi-rayed sunflower stars, nudibranchs of every color in the rainbow, daintily striped rock shrimp, brightly colored serpulids and encrusting sponges are found in abundance. The shy and retiring wolf eel may also contribute a bit of excitement to the diver lucky enough to spot one.

And, since the Sonoma Coast is less heavily dived than the Monterey Peninsula, game is much more plentiful. One local diver claims he got his limit of red abalone in six minutes without getting his head wet. Nine-inch red abs are still found in shallow water. And game fish, such as halibut, cabezon, lingcod and snapper, seem to grow larger in these colder, rougher waters.

Visibility along the Sonoma Coast is generally not as good as that in Monterey, averaging 10 to 15 feet. On a good day, it may reach 25 to 30 feet. However, there are also those rare days when the North Coast's 80 to 100 foot visibility puts more glamorous spots to shame. Average water temperature is a nippy 44°F.

If you're heading for the Sonoma Coast, it's important to realize that you are at the mercy of the weather. You are also a long way from help should an emergency arise. So be sure to locate the nearest telephone and have an emergency plan before beginning your dive. If you've never dived the North Coast before, it's a good idea to go with an "old timer" or someone familiar with the area. When crossing pastures, watch out for livestock; divers have been chased by bulls. Also, dogs must be kept on leashes or in vehicles. If conditions are poor for diving (even after you've driven *all that way!*) use good judgement. Get out your wine and cheese and picnic on the cliffs. Enjoy storm surf from a safe distance; diving will be better another day.

To reach Sonoma Coast dive spots from San Francisco, take U.S. 101 north to the Russian River turnoff (Hwy 116) at Cotati. Head northwest through Sebastopol to Guerneville, then follow the Russian River Road (Hwy 116) west to Jenner and the coast. Follow the Coast Highway north to Fort Ross. For an alternate route, take Bodega Road out of Sebastopol to Bodega Bay, then follow the Coast Highway north to Jenner and Fort Ross.

For a delightful weekend of camping and free diving or even blowing a few bubbles, the following is a sampling of some of the many dive sites available along the Sonoma Coast.

**Fort Ross State Park** — The site of an early Russian settlement located 12 miles north of Jenner. A good spot to bring the whole family. There is a small sandy beach and picnic area located south of the fort itself at Fort Ross Cove. Fishing is good and small boats or diveboards may be launched on calm days. The northwest point shields the cove from the prevailing swell. But there is no protection from the southwest. For better visibility and more varied scenery, take the trail to the north cove, just down from the parking lot and enter off the rocks. You may drive to the beach to deposit dive gear but must park in the lot on the hill. Entrance fee is \$1.50 per vehicle. (Note: The California Dept. of Parks and Recreation may close this area to divers. Call (707) 865-2391 for updates).

**Timber Cove** — Located 2 miles north of Fort Ross on Hwy 1 just south of the Timber Cove Lodge. It has a private campground with a well protected cove and the only air compressor along the Sonoma Coast (\$2.65 per fill). Although the cove itself is fairly well "picked over," there are extensive kelp beds to the north and south which are good for both abs and fish. Launch a small boat, inflatable or diveboard here and paddle to the neighboring coves. Entrance fee is \$2 per person (day use). This includes transportation for you and your gear down to the beach. Overnight camping is \$6 for two people. Diveboards rent for \$10 per day. Small boats start at \$17.50.

**Stillwater Cove** — Part of a new Sonoma County Regional Park located 4 miles north of Fort Ross. The cove is well protected with easy access and is a good spot for basic scuba classes. The U/W scenery is quite beautiful and game is plentiful. Unload your gear at the dive site and park across the highway or in the parking lot (\$1.50/day). Walk down a short path to a sand/gravel beach. Beach faces south/southwest. This is a good spot to launch diveboards and paddle to the outside edge of the kelp bed. Best game spots are outside to the left and right. Chemical toilets at beach.

(Continued on Page 60)

#### MONTEREY DIVE LAWS

Ordinance #2096 C.S. and resolution #12,892 C.S. require the following in the area of Cannery Row north of Drake Street:

1. A. It is unlawful to load or unload dive equipment and other gear on any street between 6:00 am and 6:00 pm on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays except in the marked zone on Cannery Row Street near the end of Hoffman Avenue and in Cannery Row Parking Lot No. 1.
- B. It is unlawful to dress or undress, including changing into dive gear, except in Cannery Row Parking Lot No. 1.
2. You may park in any lawful parking place but must pay the fees and abide by the time limits. You are encouraged to park in Cannery Row Lot No. 1.
3. In the area of Cannery Row from Drake Street to the Breakwater, there are no regulations. Temporary toilet facilities are maintained at the end of Reeside Street.
4. There are two marked access points to the beach in each area. Use these and do not trespass on private property.
5. Trash cans are placed throughout the area. Please use them.

#### USEFUL INFORMATION

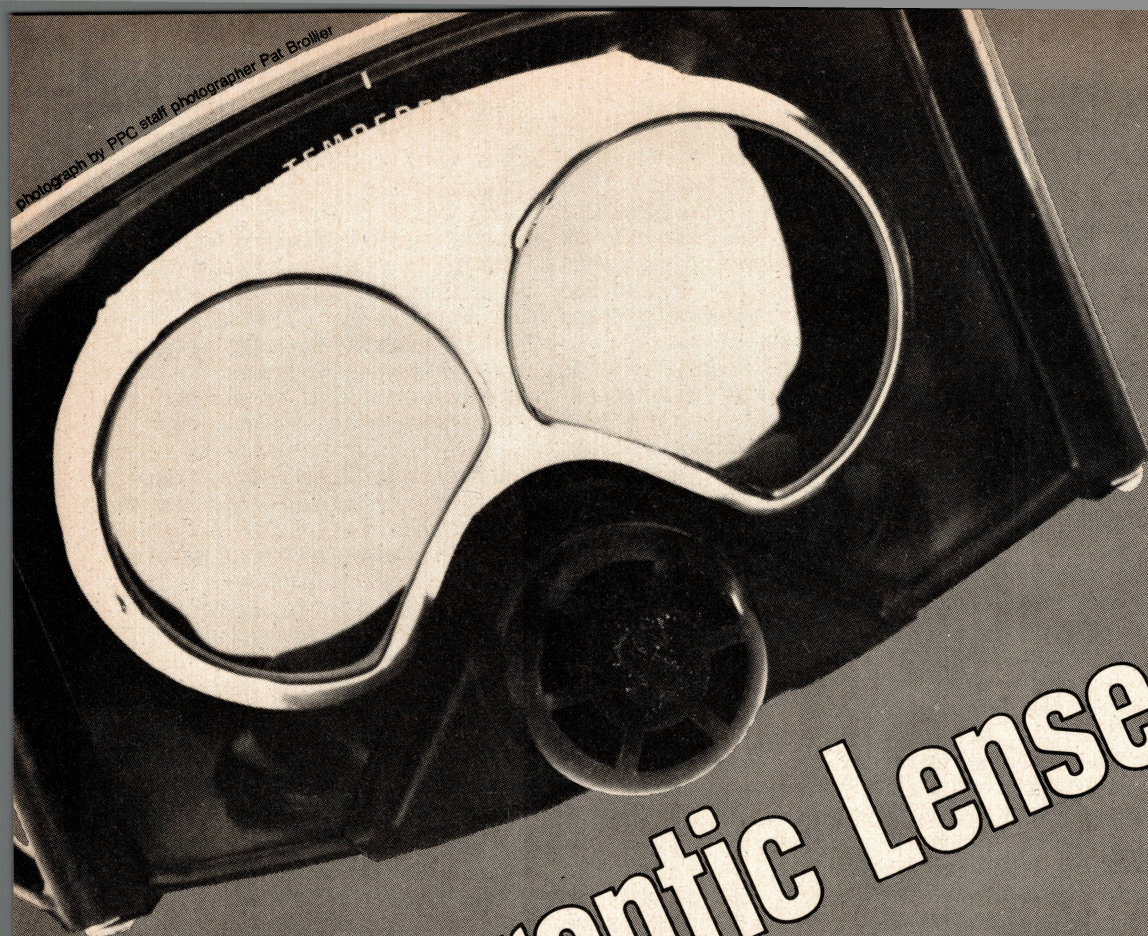
##### DIVE CONDITIONS

Monterey Peninsula  
Dive Center: (408) 375-6363  
Aquarius: (408) 375-1933  
Sonoma Coast  
Salt Point State Park: (707) 847-3221  
Timber Cove: (707) 847-3278  
Stillwater Cove County Park: (707) 847-3245

##### EMERGENCY RESCUE

Monterey Peninsula  
Emergency Operator: Dial 911  
Pacific Grove Rescue Unit: (408) 375-3146  
Sonoma Coast  
Emergency Dispatch: (707) 527-2121  
Highway Patrol: (707) Zenith 1-2000





Add  
Contrast  
To Your  
Next Dive  
With

# Clearoptic Lenses

By Bonnie J. Cardone

The boat rocked ever so slightly as I pulled my hood over my head. I picked up my mask with the new, yellow Clearoptic lenses in it and put it on. I heard a chuckle and turned to see my dive buddy looking at me with great amusement.

"What's with the sunglasses in your mask?" he asked. "You gone Hollywood?" He stuffed his regulator in his mouth and emitted a muffled chuckle. After giving him a dirty look, I jumped off into the water. He'd have to wait until after the dive for his explanation. Besides, I wanted to try my new mask before talking about it.

Later, while resting from the dive, I explained that the yellow Clearoptic lenses were not intended to double for sunglasses. They were designed to improve depth perception and visibility and put color back into the underwater world. This particular pair was also custom ground to correct my slight myopia.

Of course, everyone understands why optically corrected lenses are necessary. Diving is more fun when you can see what you're doing and what you're looking at. It is also more productive.

Many marine delicacies depend upon protective camouflage to keep them off a diver's dinner table. Corrective lenses help game hunters distinguish the edibles from the nonedibles. Good eyesight also helps underwater photographers find subjects, especially those tiny colorful creatures which make good macro pictures.

Thus, the prescription part of the lenses needed no explanation, but the yellow tint had everyone puzzled. I pointed out that ski goggles are often tinted yellow, car fog lamps are yellow and yellow filters are sometimes used to shoot black and white photographs. Hunters wear special yellow tinted glasses in dim light. Yellow is used because it increases contrast, thereby improving depth perception. It holds back blue and lets its own color through. This works well in fog, haze and underwater where blues predominate. Depth perception is very important to photographers and spearfishermen. Color, of course, adds to any diver's enjoyment of the underwater world.

Although the yellow tint reduces the amount of light coming through the lens, the eye will compensate by dilating the pupil and the lesser amount of light will not be noticed. The mask has one disadvantage which I noticed when I ascended, looking up. The ripples on the surface, combined with the glue around the outside of the lenses pro-

duced a wierd shadow effect which I found disorienting.

The Clearoptic lenses can be bonded to any mask which has a glass faceplate. (Plastic cannot be used because the adhesive used in the bonding process melts it.) The adhesive is 98 percent optically perfect, according to the manufacturer, and is guaranteed to be unaffected by water and by temperature changes with normal use. Clearoptic's bonding method does not affect tempered faceplates.

Clearoptic lenses can be custom ground for you whether you are farsighted, nearsighted, have an astigmatism or need bifocals. If you don't wish to view your underwater world through a colored faceplate, order the lenses without the tint. If you like the tint, but have perfect vision, order the tint without the prescription.

If you do not have a mask and cannot find the model you want in your dive store, Clearoptic can get one for you and will add its retail cost to that of grinding and installing the lenses. (This is about \$55 at your dive store, with or without the tint and with or without a custom ground prescription.)

To order the lenses, take your mask along with your prescription, if desired, and your P.D. (distance between the pupils of your eyes) to a nearby dive store. If you do not have a mask, specify the company name and model you want. If there is no store near you, send your mask, prescription and P.D. to Clearoptic Laboratories, Inc., Underwater Division, 4420 Belden Street, Canton, Ohio 44718. >



# "THE PENTAX 6X7 IS THE FINEST UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHIC SYSTEM IN THE WORLD."

**-PAUL TZIMOULIS**

*Editor-Publisher, Skin Diver Magazine.*

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*"Pentax has combined the versatility of a 35mm SLR camera system with the superior format of a high quality studio camera."*

Even on land, there's never been a camera like the Pentax 6x7. It's the only medium-format camera designed to look, perform and handle exactly like a 35mm SLR.

*"The 6x7 negative format provides the underwater photographer with a significant advantage over his 35mm contemporaries."*

The Pentax 6x7 produces a negative  $3\frac{1}{2}$  times larger than that of a normal 35mm, so image quality improves dramatically. Fish, plants, even the vibrating water currents come out crystal-clear and razor-sharp. And the 6x7 negative enlarges easily to all standard paper sizes with little perceptible increase in grain.

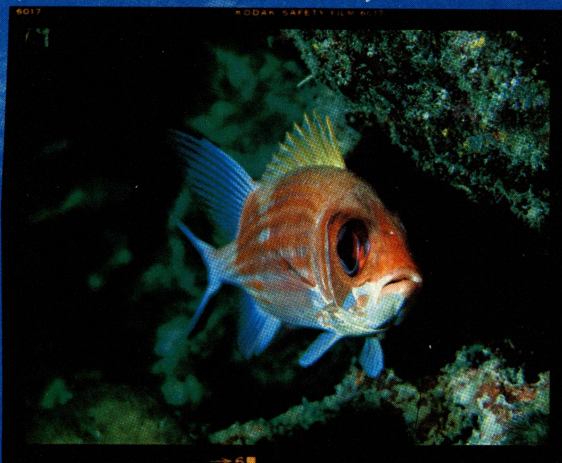
*"The rugged construction of this housing appears strong enough for safe operation at depths to 250 feet, even though the manufacturer conservatively indicates 164 feet."*

The Pentax 6x7 Marine housing is beautifully crafted and cleverly designed. It offers extraordinary water-tight integrity and close to neutral buoyancy, weighing 2.2 lbs. at any depth.

The solid mounting and secure lock system hold the camera firmly in place. Two different flash connections permit synchronization with either strobe or FP bulbs. Film changing is done without removing the camera from the housing (unheard of with 35mm housings). And three quick-change lens ports accommodate seven interchangeable lenses. From

35mm to 200mm (plus macro), you can cover any situation with a precision Pentax lens.

You probably won't find a better underwater authority than Paul Tzimoulis. And according to him, you won't find a better underwater system than the incredible Pentax 6x7 Marine.



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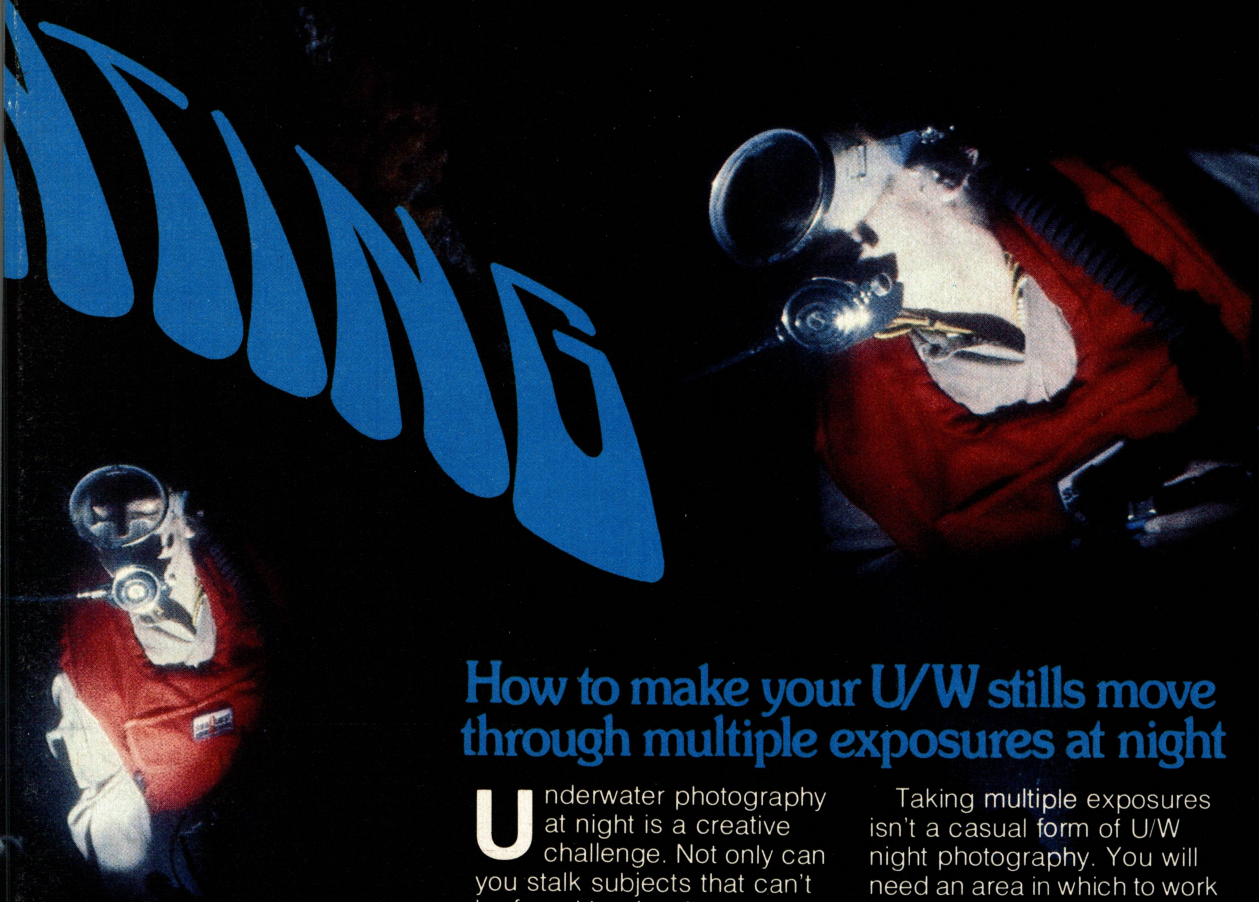

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# STROBE RAIN







## How to make your U/W stills move through multiple exposures at night

**U**nderwater photography at night is a creative challenge. Not only can you stalk subjects that can't be found by day, but you can use the darkness for special effects.

### TAKING MULTIPLE EXPOSURES

Exposing a single frame of film with a series of strobe flashes is an exciting way to create U/W pictures at night. In a nutshell, it consists of holding the camera shutter open on the B speed setting while your buddy (the strobe flasher) flashes a strobe several times at different areas of the subject. He or she can use an empty camera to trigger the strobe. (Please note that we *are not* talking about slave strobes which are normally used for multiple lighting techniques.)

Taking multiple exposures isn't a casual form of U/W night photography. You will need an area in which to work without interference from other divers. And if you are with a dive tour operation and must follow the divemaster, forget it! You will need a dive buddy who understands U/W photography and who will spend the dive working with you for the picture. Don't expect a new night diver (especially a scared one), or someone you buddied up with at random aboard a dive boat, to be an effective assistant. You need cooperation and teamwork.

Multiple exposures work best for wide-angle shots at a dive site that offers distinctive features — such as wreck-age, archways, rock formations or kelp stalks — that provide multiple points of

**Text and Photography by Jim and Cathy Church**



interest which can be illuminated independently in the picture. Dive the site during the day with your dive buddy. Locate a specific setup which you can find again at night (possibly marking it with a buoy or chemical light). Make some rough sketches so you have a definite goal in mind.

Communications must be worked out in advance. Body English and eye contact are difficult to interpret at night — you can't rely on shrugs, smiles or dirty looks. Use a system of audible grunts, light shaking or flashing, or tapping noises. The photographer must be able to signal when the shutter is open, and the strobe flasher must be able to signal when the last flash has been made.

The photographer must be able to hold the camera steady for exposure times up

to 30 or 45 seconds. You might try bracing your elbows on rock or wreckage, or even use a tripod or home-made unipod. Some camera movement won't make much difference, providing that the strobe is flashed at different subject areas. But if the flashes overlap, camera movement can cause blurred images.

Because the pupils of your eyes open up in the dark, each flash of the strobe seems to produce a tremendous amount of light. And after two or three flashes, you may be convinced that everything in front of your lens has been illuminated. However, the lens is stopped down for your calculated strobe-to-subject distance, and isn't fooled by the light that is blinding to your eyes. For a subject area to be illuminated in your picture, strobe light must strike that area directly

and reflect back to the camera lens. Light passing through midwater to the distant background may appear to be illuminating your picture area, but provides little if any light for your exposure.

If the strobe will be in the picture, the strobe flasher should keep it at an angle of about 45 degrees to the subject — from the photographer's viewpoint — to prevent strobe light from striking the lens directly and causing glare. Aiming the strobe, therefore, is tricky because the strobe flasher must think in terms of the photographer's view rather than his own. However, if the strobe is hidden behind a diver or bottom formation, it may be aimed back toward the camera to increase the silhouette effect. The strobe flasher has the advantage of being able to close his eyes a fraction of a second

## A PRIMER FOR BEGINNING U/W NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHERS

Your first problem will be vision — seeing subjects, camera settings, spiny sea urchins and sometimes even your dive buddy. But if you carry a dive light in your hand, how do you handle your camera and strobe? And when you are moving in on an U/W subject, how do you keep your knees off the urchins? To help solve these and other problems of U/W night photography, we offer the following guidelines for beginners:

### PLANNING THE DIVE

- **KISS** — Keep it Super Simple! Choose one type of U/W photography — such as close-up or extension tube work — and stay with that single purpose throughout the dive. Making changes in focused distance and aperture settings for different shots increases the probability of errors.

- Preset focus and aperture, and (if possible) bracket exposures by changing the strobe-to-subject distance rather than the aperture setting.

- Small dive lights are often best. While a larger, more powerful light will light up the entire bottom for a skitterish, new night diver, it will often scare potential subjects away and impair your night vision.

- Attach a small, narrow-beam light to your strobe with a strap, bracket or tape. Aim the strobe by aiming this light at the subject. This will also give you an idea of the effect of side or back lighting as you see light striking the subject.

- A second, more powerful light can be attached to a camera housing to help aim the camera, and as an important aid for SLR focusing.

- Don't have large dive lights and other gear dangling below you on cords, and avoid attaching cumbersome camera/strobe systems to your

body with neckstraps. Should a dive emergency occur, drop the camera system — no camera is worth your life! The light attached to the strobe (or housing) will act as a beacon so you can retrieve the camera later.

- Always have lights to mark your exit point — the anchor line, boat or shore. If you need a bearing for a shore exit, choose two obvious light sources on shore that you can align for a bearing, and which will not be turned off while you are in the water.

### THE SPOTTER AND PHOTOGRAPHER TECHNIQUE

- The spotter's job is to lead the photographer and find subjects. He or she can carry both a powerful wide-beam light, for surveying the general area, and a smaller narrow-beam light for illuminating and/or herding subjects. We recommend that the spotter concentrate on lighting and not carry a camera.

- The photographer follows the spotter's lead and concentrates more on the mechanics of handling the camera gear. He can use the small light attached to his strobe and should avoid looking at bright lights.

- When the spotter sees a subject which is the right size for the photographer's lens, he shifts from the wide-beam to the narrow-beam light. If the subject is stationary, or isn't afraid of light, the spotter shines the beam directly at the subject and wiggles the beam to identify it to the photographer. If the subject is afraid of light, the spotter can shine the light on himself to get attention.

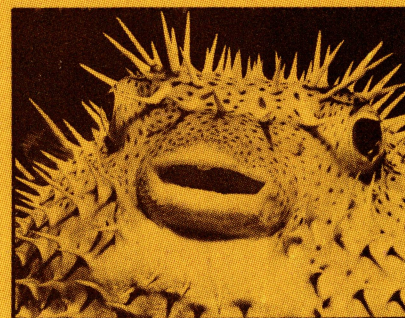
- The spotter then uses his light to direct the photographer into a position — an area free of sea urchins! When the photographer is in position, the spotter either illuminates the subject,

or uses his light to herd the subject toward the camera.

### FINDING SUBJECTS

- Begin with stationary subjects that won't try to escape. Urchins with light spines, open coral polyps, sponges with brittle stars, and some sleeping fish are good subjects for beginners.

- Octopus, lobster, eels, turtles, shrimp and crabs are also good subjects, but may require more savvy and luck, and more teamwork between the spotter and photographer.



- A puffer fish can be gently squeezed to make it puff up for a picture. However, be sure you allow the fish to deflate so it can swim safely back to the coral.

- Some U/W photographers mesmerize fish to hold them in position by shining bright lights into their eyes. We discourage this practice because we've seen fish slam into urchins or coral when darting away from the light. We also wonder if sudden exposure to bright light at night could be fatal for some fish. If any reader can offer sound evidence to answer this question, we welcome your comments. (Write to: Jim and Cathy Church, Box 80, Gilroy, CA 95020.)





Cathy poses at the boiler room entrance on the wreck of the *Balboa*. Jim's strobe provides fill light while Cathy's illuminates the interior. The haunted house effect (below) was created by several multiple exposures.

before he triggers his strobe, but the photographer usually just has to grin and bear it when the strobe light strikes his eyes.

Backscatter from suspended particles can be a problem at night because you usually can't see how much stuff you're kicking up from the bottom. And with strobe exposures, light-colored particles will show up brightly against the black, midwater background. Therefore, the strobe flasher must move slowly into position and with a minimum use of his fins.

## THE ROMAN COLUMNS

We tried our first multiple exposure experiments at a site that we call the "Roman columns" — a series of metal uprights at the wreck of the *Balboa*, in Georgetown Harbor, Grand Cayman. Our goal was a picture showing four images of Cathy, posing at four different columns.

We began with a practice run in daylight. Jim determined where the camera should be positioned so the wide-angle lens would cover the entire scene with a minimum camera-to-subject distance, and found where he could steady the camera by bracing his elbows on a piece of wreckage. Cathy looked through the viewfinder to get the feel of the scene,

and then practiced posing at the different columns. We now had a plan!

We lucked out during the night dive. The water was clear and since it was shallow, we could see each other underwater in the strong moonlight. Jim settled on the bottom and turned on the Super-Q light that was attached to his camera. By keeping this light aimed at the same spot on one of the columns, he could maintain correct aim once the scene had been composed in the viewfinder.

Cathy positioned herself at the farthest column and waited until Jim wiggled the light — the signal that he would open the camera shutter at the count of three. And at the count of five, Cathy aimed her strobe at herself, shut her eyes to avoid the harsh glare, and triggered her strobe with an empty Nikonos. Then, as Jim held the camera steady with the shutter open, she moved to each successive column, posed and flashed her strobe. After a few additional flashes to accent the foreground and wreckage, Jim allowed the shutter of his Nikonos to close again.

This procedure was repeated three times — at apertures of f8, f11 and f16 — to provide three frames with bracketed multiple exposures. Our end result was one reasonably exposed slide that showed four sharp, distinct images of

Cathy in the picture. The spot of light from the aiming light had been erased by the more powerful light of the strobe.

## THE HAUNTED HOUSE

Our second multiple exposure setup was at the boiler room of the *Balboa* — a box-like structure with openings resembling doorways and windows. We had taken a wide-angle sunlight shot of the boiler room the week before, and wanted to dissolve this sunlight shot into a spooky night shot in a two-projector slide show. We wanted a haunted house effect, and Cathy would use several strobe flashes to illuminate areas both inside and outside of the boiler room. Jim studied the sunlight shot so he could position his camera at approximately the same position for the night shot.

Jim decided not to use the Q-lite to aim the camera because the moonlit bulk of the boiler loomed clearly in his Nikonos 15mm viewfinder. He set the shutter speed to B, and his Mark 150 strobe to 50 watt-seconds. When he squeezed the shutter release lever, his strobe flashed once to provide a soft touch of fill light to the exterior of the boiler room. He then held the shutter open for the 45 to 60 seconds that it took Cathy to complete the multiple exposures. After seeing the single flash from Jim's strobe, she began flashing her strobe on the roof and upper edge, and then moved inside and flashed her strobe at the ceiling, walls and floor to illuminate the inside of the boiler room. She finished by flashing the strobe out an open window, with a downward angle so the light would hit the sand bottom outside. Because Jim wasn't using a tripod or other support, Cathy was careful not to overlap flashes which would show the camera movement.

Our last shot was to show Cathy entering the boiler room. She posed in the doorway as if she were entering and aimed her strobe back toward her body from inside the doorway. Again, with the shutter set for B, and the Mark 150 set for 50 watt-seconds, Jim squeezed his Nikonos shutter release — the Mark 150 provided fill lighting on Cathy's back and the side of the boiler room. And when Cathy detected the flash from Jim's strobe, she triggered her strobe to silhouette herself in the doorway. Jim released the shutter advance, to close the shutter again, as soon as Cathy's strobe flashed. Had Cathy's strobe been equipped with a slave sensor, the exposure could have been made at 1/60 second. However, we were able to get an acceptable picture with the multiple exposure technique.

## CONCLUSION

We hope that our experiments with multiple exposures have given you some ideas for experiments of your own. This isn't an area where anybody can say that they have the last word about composition or technique. Rather, it is another creative challenge for photographers. »

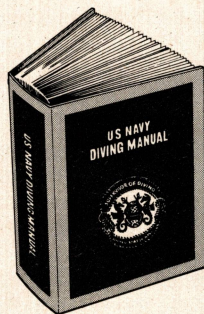


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## BEACH DIVING

(Continued from Page 53)

**Ocean Cove** — Located one-tenth of a mile north of Stillwater Cove. Pay "trespass fee" at small Ocean Cove grocery store: \$1.50 per person; \$3 per car. Posted sign warns: "Pay on entry or pay double when leaving!" Enter through gate in wood fence and drive down bumpy dirt road. Park at edge of cliff, suit up at car, and walk down dirt path to pebbly beach. The west-facing cove is open to powerful ocean swells. Use caution. Chemical toilets near store.

**Salt Point State Park** — Located seven miles north of Fort Ross, this is the most heavily dived area along the Sonoma Coast. Divers may camp here for the weekend and dive the numerous coves within the park or use this as headquarters for diving other spots along the coast. Gerstle Cove, the main dive area, is the most protected cove within the park and probably the most protected along the entire North Coast. It's an excellent spot for basic classes and first-time visitors to the North Coast. The entry is easy, the marine life interesting, and



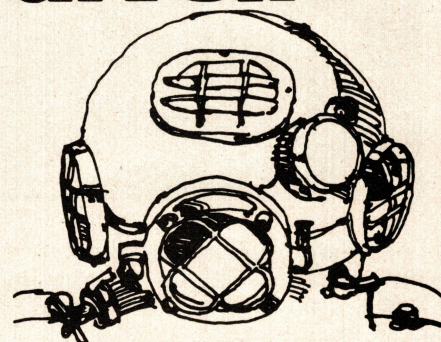
photograph by Rodney Anton

**Gerstle Cove, in Salt Point State Park, is probably the North Coast's most protected dive site.**

the park rangers hospitable to divers. Gerstle Cove is also a Marine Life Preserve and all animals and plants are protected. Park and suit up on the hill overlooking the cove. Walk down the dirt road to a small, boulder strewn beach. If you want to take game, launch a small boat or diveboard here and paddle out to areas beyond the preserve. (Note: Outside the cove are large boulders and submerged rocks which are dangerous in large surf.) Entrance fee \$1.50 (day use); overnight camping, \$2. Campsites are somewhat primitive (chemical toilets, no showers).

**Stump Beach** — Another part of Salt Point State Park, located about one mile north of the Salt Point entrance on Hwy 1. There is ample parking with a pleasant picnic area situated among the trees. Because of the long walk down to the wide sandy beach, many divers prefer to free dive rather than hauling their tanks. Visibility within the cove is generally not too good. Diving is better at the kelp beds to the north and south of the cove. But along

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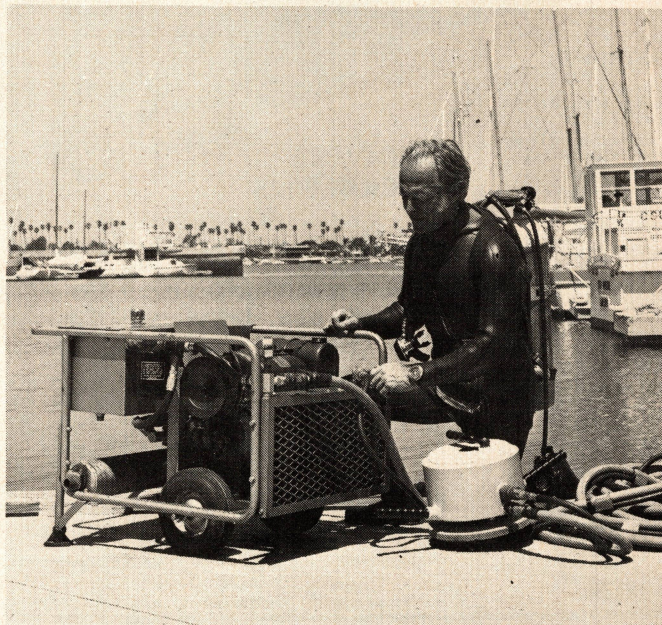
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with increased visibility you get rougher water. No fee. Chemical toilets.

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photograph by Frank Blazic

**Tide pooling is often a sensible alternative to diving. This pool is part of Richardson's Ranch.**



**Robert J. Shourst**  
President, Undersea Systems, Inc.  
President, Coastal Diving Operations, Inc.  
Director, Coastal Diving Academy  
President, The Dive Shop, Inc.

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**SD-6**

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I. <input type="checkbox"/> Aquastar Glasstar Watch	109.95	60.95
J. <input type="checkbox"/> 3/16" Hardsole Boots Shoe Size	19.00	14.95
K. <input type="checkbox"/> U.S.D. Rocket Fins	29.50	17.95

THE DIVE SHOP pays all shipping costs within the continental U.S.A., but there is a \$2.00 service charge for orders under \$25.00. Outside the continental U.S.A., (Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, etc.) all freight charges are C.O.D. Allow 3 to 4 weeks delivery with personal check.

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Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Interbank No. \_\_\_\_\_

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	List Price	You Pay
L. <input type="checkbox"/> U.S.D. 1/4" Nylon 2 Side Farmer John	202.25	159.95
Ht. _____ Wt. _____ Chest _____		
Waist _____ Hips _____		
M. <input type="checkbox"/> U.S.D. BCII Vest	155.50	99.95
N. <input type="checkbox"/> Deluxe Scuba Special: 80 cu. ft. Alum. Tank, Contour back-pack, Conshelf XIV Regulator w/K valve	367.70	225.95
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tected, so enter here only if there is no surf whatsoever. Surf and strong rip currents may suddenly appear, so plan alternate exit spots. The large kelp bed to the left (southeast) supports lots of fish and harbor seals. The wide, flat rocks are excellent for sunbathing after your dive.

**Richardson's Ranch** — Located 3 miles north of Kruse Ranch on Hwy 1. Two popular dive spots accessible through ranch property are: Guard Rail, at mile marker 46.00, and Horseshoe Cove, at mile marker 46.37. Park along the highway. Pay \$2 trespass fee by placing money in an envelope in red box found along the fence. Write your car's license number on the envelope. Climb the fence and walk down to the bluff overlooking the ocean. Guard Rail is marked by two headstones at the edge of the cliff. Depths of 45 to 50 feet can be reached directly off the rocks. Visibility is often good here. Abs and fish are plentiful. Horseshoe Cove, just north of Guard Rail, is the northernmost access for conveniently launching diveboards. Spearfishing is good here but abs are mostly shorts. Closest facilities are two miles north at Stewart's Point Store.

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# GINNIE





# SPRINGS

## Unique Freshwater Resort

By Bill Barada

Florida offers the greatest diversity of dive conditions to be found anywhere in America — perhaps in all the world. The state borders three major ocean environments (the Atlantic, Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico); has the only living coral reefs off the continental United States; has produced

are thriving throughout the entire state.

What is amazing, however, is that one of the state's greatest assets — the gin-clear water of its spring-fed rivers, pools and caverns in north Florida — has been sadly neglected. Despite the tens of thousands of divers who visit Florida each year,



Diving north Florida's pools and caverns can be a beautiful U/W experience. For convenience and safety, a permanent lifeline was installed at Ginnie Springs.

more gold and silver from sunken Spanish treasure ships than all other areas combined; is rich in prehistoric fossils and artifacts which are mostly found underwater; has the world's most extensive network of spring-fed rivers, streams and sinkholes; and the world's most complex network of water-filled caves, caverns and underground rivers. Thus, it is not surprising that diving is one of Florida's chief tourist attractions or that dive shops, dive resorts and underwater guide services

many of the popular streams and caverns are so far out in the boondocks you need a special map or guide to find them; and most are in wilderness areas with no facilities or conveniences of any kind.

This situation is rapidly changing, however. Cave diving equipment, instruction and training are now available and a major spring-oriented resort has been opened in north Florida that may transform this area into one of the state's hottest tourist dive spots.

Photographs by Tom Mount



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# The Gun



Sometimes it's tough to accept something new. Especially for the professionals. Just when they mastered sling techniques and equipment, along came the new pneumatic muzzle-loaded gun.

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The person pioneering this transformation is St. Petersburg developer, Bob Wray. The name of the new resort is Ginnie Springs, Inc. It is located on State Road 236, seven miles from the town of High Springs which is on Highway 441 north of Gainesville. Although the chief attraction is Ginnie Spring (formerly known as Jenny Spring), the resort is by no means limited to a single spring pool and cavern. Ginnie Springs, Inc. consists of 400 undeveloped acres bordering a two-mile stretch of the Santa Fe River. It includes six separate springs: Ginnie, Devil's Eye, July, Dogwood, Twin and Deer. Ginnie is the largest and has long been popular with Florida divers. Devil's Eye is one of the most spectacular. The other four are spring pools, excellent for snorkeling, and each has its own unique characteristics.

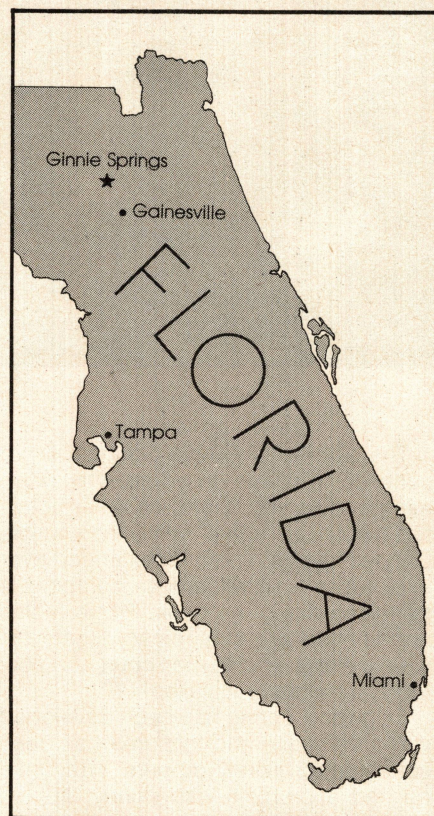
The 400 acres also include a pristine forest of cypress, pine and wild pecan trees along with other wilderness areas which Bob Wray says he is determined to preserve. He says he is not developing the area in the usual sense, but is letting the land and water tell him what to do. "Everything I build here will be out of sight of the river, on higher ground," Wray said. "The geologic formations in Ginnie Spring are 1,500,000 years old and no one is going to screw it up as long as I own it."

He does not spray with pesticides for mosquitoes. Wray says that tiny fish and purple martins eat about 2000 mosquitoes a day and insecticides wipe out beneficial wildlife along with the pests. "We think nature's system of regulating these things is the way to go," Wray says. For this reason experts are consulted before construction is undertaken on any facility. This includes divers and dive organizations as well as environmentalists, biologists, geologists, hydrologists and engineers.

Evidence of Wray's environmental awareness can be seen in facilities already available. There are 55 campsites with hookups for electricity and water, but they are nestled among the trees of the forest and hidden from view. Two tiled bathhouses are equipped with hot water and changing rooms. A full service dive shop, managed by experienced cave diver, Joe Hall, is combined with a general store and the main office. All of these, including the bathhouses, are situated far enough from the river or springs to assure that the water will remain clear and unpolluted. The only waterfront activities permitted (in addition to diving, swimming, fishing and canoeing) are picnicking and wilderness camping along the river bank.

The heart of the Ginnie Springs operation and the secret of its success, however, is the uniqueness of services provided through the dive shop. Other spring-oriented campgrounds are avail-

able in Florida, both in state parks and privately owned resorts, and a few of these permit scuba diving. But Ginnie is the first to provide cave diving gear for sale or rental — and the first, other than Blue Grotto, to offer cave and cavern diving instruction along with professionally guided tours into adjacent caves. The resort also offers a "cave orientation" course similar to the introductory courses in scuba diving offered by many ocean resorts. Thus, visitors to Ginnie Springs can enjoy a cave diving experience without risking their lives in the process.



**The Ginnie Springs resort is located north of Gainesville, seven miles from the town of High Springs. The resort actually contains six springs.**

The value of these services have proven themselves in practice. No diver drownings have occurred in either Ginnie or Devil's Eye since the resort has been in operation.

Ginnie Spring is an exciting and beautiful underground dive experience. Well-built cypress decks and walks provide easy access to the large spring pool which sits in a clearing surrounded by a forest of gnarled cypress trees. The water is so clear that details on the white sand and rock bottom stand out sharply. Submerged clumps of dark-green eelgrass form a pleasing contrast to the blue water and white bottom. The entrance to the cavern is marked by the darker blue of deeper water where the limestone shelf drops quickly to a depth of around 20 feet.

The floor of the cavern is coarse white sand that settles rapidly after being disturbed. The walls and ceiling are much like that of a rocky breakwater or jetty. A permanent lifeline has been installed for convenience and safety. You can follow the lifeline as it slopes gently downward through odd-shaped rooms and caverns until you reach the Cathedral, a huge room 78 feet long, 72 feet wide, and 38 feet high. At this point you are 114 feet from the cave entrance in 60 feet of water, and this is as far as you can go. There is an iron grate blocking the entrance to the two small, silt-laden tunnels that lead on into deeper penetrations. The grate was installed to prevent any more divers from succumbing to the lure of the tunnels — in which 18 divers have died.

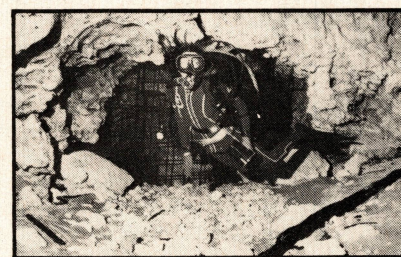
It should be pointed out that National Association for Cave Diving (NACD) safety rules are strictly enforced. C-cards are required before scuba tanks will be filled or before scuba equipment can be used in Ginnie. Tanks must have an up-to-date interior inspection. BC's and octopus rigs are mandatory and can be rented on the spot. Lifelines are not required in Ginnie because a permanent line is already in place. Underwater lights are optional because Ginnie is classed as a cavern and lights are not mandatory but can be rented if desired. Single tanks are permitted due to Ginnie's limited penetration depths, but the resort's 5000 psi compressor can easily handle the larger capacity, double tank setups popular with veteran cave divers. Other specialized cave diving gear can also be rented by certified cave divers, or by students in cave diving classes.

It should also be pointed out that, although Ginnie Springs' owner encourages safe cave diving practices in Devil's Eye and tries to limit deep penetrations to competent, certified cave divers, Wray has no legal control over these waters: They are in a "navigable" portion of the Santa Fe River and are under federal jurisdiction. What Ginnie operators can do, however, is force rebels and non-conformists to enter and leave without ever setting foot on the privately owned land of Ginnie Springs, Inc. Another factor which encourages safe diving practices in Devil's Eye is the influence of experienced cave divers and guests who utilize the resort's facilities. Professional cave diving instructors of the NACD and the National Speleological Society (NSS) conduct classes at Ginnie and Devil's Eye and only fools would ignore their friendly advice.

Devil's Eye also provides an outstanding cavern dive for those who are not certified as cave divers. The entrance is at the bottom of a cylindrical shaft that drops vertically to a depth of 20 feet. The cave opening is small (only 3 feet high and 18 inches wide) but it permits entrance into a wildly beautiful jumble of



The land surrounding Ginnie Springs consists of 400 acres of pristine forest which owner Bob Wray is determined to preserve. The resort provides cave diving gear for sale or rent and offers cave and cavern diving instruction along with professionally guided tours to adjacent caves. Well into the cave in 60 feet of water is an iron grate blocking the entrance to two small tunnels. NACD (National Association for Cave Diving) safety rules are strictly enforced so that visitors can enjoy the crystal clear water and interesting cave formations without risking their lives.



broken and fragmented limestone rocks that leads into a dark room called the Devil's Dungeon. Most of the rocks have a dark coating, probably from minerals in the water, so it is a good idea to take along underwater lights. It is also a good idea for first-timers to visit Devil's Eye in the company of an experienced buddy. The temptation to explore "just a little bit farther" is very great.

Ginnie's underwater attractions are not limited to cave and cavern diving. Snorkeling in the clear water of spring pools and along their spring-fed streams will take you through clusters of lily pads and through gorgeously colored freshwater vegetation that many consider as beautiful as a coral reef. Even the Santa Fe River, which is normally tinted dark brown or purple from the tannic acid run-off water, is clear during periods of low water and its teeming aquatic life is revealed. You can float above a maze of sunken logs and other debris around which turtles, garfish and schools of mullet, bream, and bass tend to congregate. Schools of fish also inhabit the spring runs and can be flushed out of hiding places among lily pads and eelgrass beds.

The Santa Fe River is also a popular hunting ground for fossils of prehistoric animals such as mastodons, mammoths and giant sloths; and for Indian artifacts such as arrowheads, spearheads and pottery, and relics of the Civil War. These are usually hidden in mudfilled holes and crevices on the bottom and must be uncovered by fanning away the soft silt.

The appeal of Ginnie Springs is not confined to divers. In addition to swimming and fishing, there are other activities which an entire family can enjoy. Canoes can be rented for extended river exploration and wilderness camping is permitted along the bank. Picnic tables and shelters are strategically located in scenic spots. A volleyball court and pool table are already installed.

Dogwood Spring has been developed into a campsite and this area has been set aside for skinny dippers. Wray said he had a problem with skinny dippers "jumping into the water any old place with families around" and Dogwood has solved this problem by giving them their own spring pool in which to engage in their specialty. "They don't use it much though," Wray says, "I guess making it legal took the fun out of it."


Ginnie Springs is also an ideal location from which to visit other popular rivers and springs. It is in the heart of North Florida cave diving country with nationally recognized attractions within easy driving distance. Among these are: the Suwannee River and Suwannee Spring, Peacock Spring, Troy Spring, Ichetucknee River and Springs, Little River Spring, Blue Grotto, and Crystal River and Crystal River Spring. Many experienced cave divers utilize Ginnie as their headquarters from which they travel to dive other spring-caves in the area.

The Ginnie Springs resort idea is already attracting national and international attention. Wray claims he has had visitors from every state in the United

States and from a number of foreign countries such as Canada, Germany, and even Japan. He said divers have arrived in chartered Greyhound buses and in caravans with as many as 30 cars in a single group. Even such large numbers do not present a problem with congestion in the springs, according to Wray. He claims the individual groups work out the timing of their dives among themselves. They take turns with one group doing something else while divers are inside a cave or cavern.

Wray has big plans for the future. These include a lodge, cabins, a restaurant which will serve "Ginnie-grown" vegetables, beef, pork, and chickens; and perhaps even a private airstrip for "fly-in" divers. Wray envisions diving growing in much the same manner as snow skiing and he says dive resorts must offer the same type of complete services.

But these things will not happen overnight. Wray intends to progress very slowly, feeling his way as he goes, and complete development may take as long as ten years. "Before any of these things happen," says Wray, who has built some of the largest housing developments in the St. Petersburg area, "the environmental consequences must be carefully weighed. I've built developments before where we told the land what to do," he said. "Now we let the land tell us."

Wray also made it clear that divers and diving are the key to Ginnie Springs' success and that future plans will be shaped to accommodate the desires and suggestions of his customers. 



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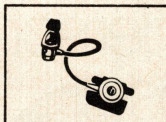
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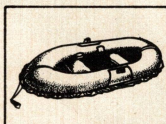
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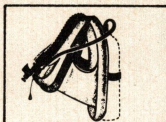
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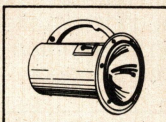
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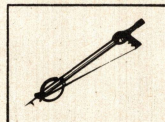
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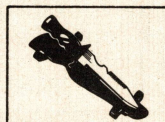
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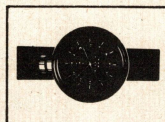
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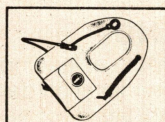
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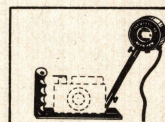
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Because scuba tanks, regulators and buoyancy compensators are potentially dangerous to untrained users, this ad does not constitute an offer to sell these items to non-certified divers via mail order.



## GLENN BEALL'S Monthly Special

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Leaves one hand free for tending students, cameras or other tools. Durable one-piece plastic in bright Dayglow Red. Non-kinking 400 lb. test braided Nylon line. Nickel and cadmium plated hardware. Reel without line \$4.20. Reel with 100 ft. line & snap \$10.95.

### Other Glenn Beall Diving 'Musts'

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#49HC2



This handy little bracket fits around underwater pressure gauge hoses and holds underwater thermometers. Fits all small dial type thermometers and hoses up to 1/2" in diameter. \$3. Plus 50 cents ship & handl.

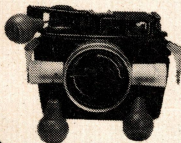
### SPRING CLOSING SAFETY SNAPS



Use these snaps with utility lines to make up special lines customized to your individual needs. The snaps have thumb-lever release for one-hand operation. Nickel (#40HCJ5) 96 cents ea. Bronze (#40HCJ6) \$1.95 ea. Plus 30 cents ship & handl.

### FLOATING ALLEN WRENCH

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If you drop it in the water, it pops to the surface immediately. Use with any 6-32 socket head set screw. The oversize handle is bright orange. \$2.80, plus 50 cents ship & handl.

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Illinois residents add 5% sales tax

Send 50 cents for full catalog—refundable

DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED

## NAUI NUMBERS GROW

NAUI (National Association of Underwater Instructors) has announced that over 10,000 diving instructors, assistant instructors, leaders and divemasters have successfully completed NAUI's comprehensive and rigorous training program. Organized as a non-profit association, NAUI instructors elect their own Board of Directors and set their own rigid standards for diving excellence.

In support of NAUI instruction operations is a full-time professional staff of administrative and clerical personnel head-



Ken Brock

quartered in California. Headquarters supplies all instructional materials, aids and general communications to its member instructors. The NAUI Diving Association supplies many products and services to the diving community. The instructor membership is also served by a system of regional branches which acts as the living link between the instructors and the industry.

NAUI's goal is to increase its existing instructor level through controlled growth. "We are interested in quality instructors, not quantity," said NAUI director Ken Brock. "Quality instructors turn out safe divers. Safe divers stay divers longer. Long-time divers are what make the sport of diving grow."

For more information on NAUI courses, write NAUI, 735 Colton Avenue, Colton, Ca 92324.

### SUBSALVE EXPANDS

Subsalve Industries, Inc., a leading manufacturer of underwater flotation devices, has recently moved into a newly renovated production facility. Subsalve now has the additional space required to increase production. In addition to physical expansion, Subsalve's corporate structure is expanding with many new appointments and promotions.

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## New Henderson All-Purpose 5-Finger Gloves

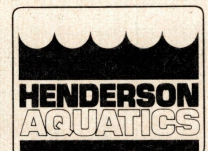


Great for lobstering and anywhere manual dexterity is important, this new design features extra long sleeves to protect suits and zippers from abrasion and to keep out excess water.

A snug fit, but not tight enough to inhibit circulation, a common cause of cold fingers.



GET OUR BRAND NEW FULL-COLOR CATALOG FEATURING FULL WET SUITS, DRY SUITS, TOPS, AND MANY ACCESSORIES.

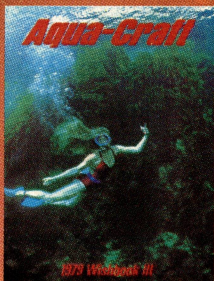


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If you've dived before, you know at 50 feet, even in the finest diving waters, without artificial light, your visibility is a murky blue-green.

But, with the Clearoptic Super-Visibility Lens you see sharp, clear colors you've never seen before.

## How Clearoptic Super-Visibility Lenses were developed for divers.

John Todd of John Todd Optical Company, the largest optical company in Ohio, has been diving around the world for years. He has never been satisfied with the decreased visibility of ordinary masks.

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## How Clearoptic Super-Visibility Lenses capture light to increase color perception.

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What you would see with an ordinary face mask.



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Dealer Inquiries Invited

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# Shell Collector's Notebook

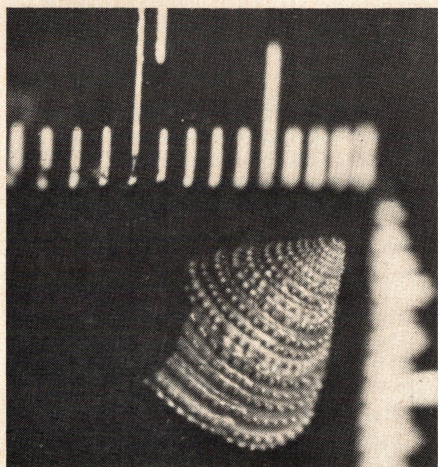
E. R. CROSS

Shell Collector's Notebook is designed for collectors who wish to improve the quantity of shells in their collections, the quality of those shells, and their knowledge of shells and shelling. Toward this basic purpose the column will provide nontechnical but scientifically accurate information on all aspects of the molluscan fauna. Shell Collector's Notebook is your column. Send your questions, comments, and photos. Watch for them in SDM.

## GLOWING SHELL

Stuart Harris of Provo, Utah, wrote about a shell he had collected while diving off Baja California near Ensenada. "At a depth of about 30 feet I discovered a small shell that seemed to glow. It was brilliantly colored with purple and gold and stood out spectacularly from its gray surroundings. Can you identify this beautiful shell for me? A photo is enclosed."

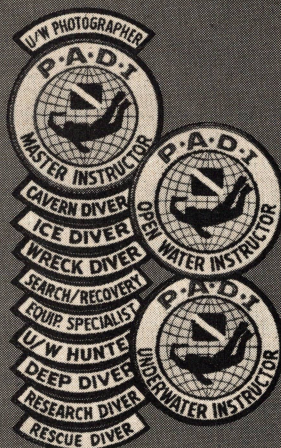
The shell in Stuart's photograph is *Calliostoma annulatum* (Lightfoot, 1786), one of the truly beautiful species of this



family of shells. Its geographic range is from Forrester Island, Alaska, south to about San Geronimo Island, Baja California, Mexico. The shell Harris collected is about one-half by one-half inch high. In the northern part of its range, this species reaches a length and width of about one and one-quarter inches. From California to the southern limit of their range, it is smaller: generally one-half to three-quarters of an inch.

The name *Calliostoma* means "beautiful mouth" and refers to the shell's bright, nacreous aperture, usually a brilliant

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Toronto, Ont., Canada	June 30 - July 8
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Stella Maris, Bahamas	July 14-21
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Marshall, MN	July 21-29
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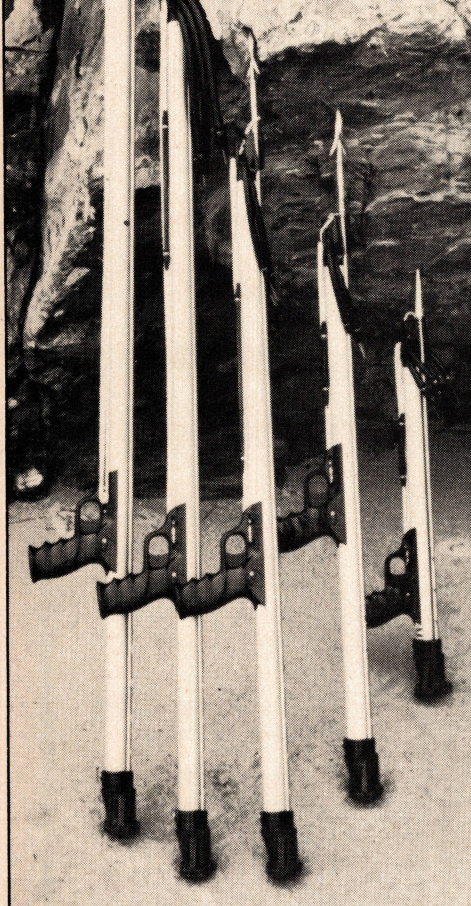
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## SHELL COLLECTOR'S

green in color. The base color has been described as golden-yellow by one writer and as appearing to be pure shiny gold by another. The shell has a bright mauve band at the periphery, and is also characterized by having numerous spiral rows of tiny, distinct beads. A living specimen of this shell does appear to glow and with its bright golden color and royal purple trim is a breathtaking sight.

I have collected this shell off California in the Palos Verdes area and off Catalina and found the habitat to be the leaves of the giant kelp. In this area the shell is usually about one inch high. Farther south, in the area in which Harris collected his shell, it is usually found on the bottom of rocks or browsing on the purple coral *Allopora porphyra*.

### A NON-MOLLUSK "SHELL"

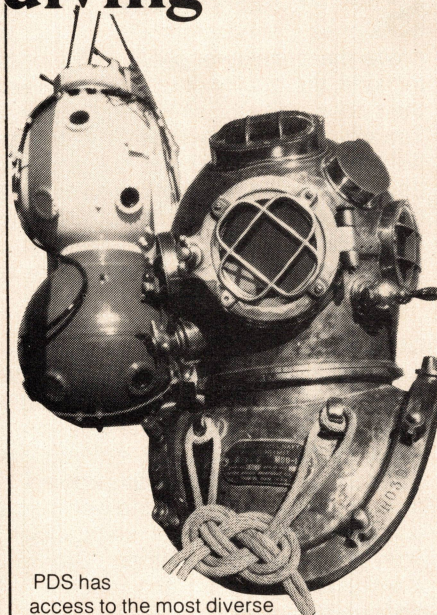
Bob Nixon, Wilmington, N.C., recently wrote stating, "I have found some unusual sand dollars. They are covered with a thin layer of what appears to be sandstone. They are very hard and the edges look worn. The Fort Myers Resources Center near here has a sample of similar stones on display. It's labeled as being 70,000 years old. How long does a sand dollar normally live? What would these shells be worth to a collector?"

First, the "shell" of a sand dollar is not that of a mollusk. Instead it is more properly termed a test (from the Latin *testa*) and is the external skeleton of an echinoderm. Echinoderms in several forms have been in existence since late Precambrian period, more than 600 million years ago.

From your description of the fossilized specimen you found, and the sample material you submitted, I suspect it belongs to a class of echinoderms called Echinoidea. Two families of echinoids, both shaped like sand dollars, might fit your description. One is the *Clypeus* that existed in the Jurassic period from 190 to 136 million years ago. The other is *Micraster*, from the Cretaceous period to Miocene epoch (136 to perhaps as recent as 3 million years ago).

In geology, times of the eras, periods, and epochs are measured in millions of years, with the estimated age of the earth being somewhere around 4.6 billion years. About seven-eighths of this 4.6 billion years, or just over 4 billion years, was Precambrian. If your sand dollar is, in fact, only 70,000 years old, a very recent age in geological history, it is probably not one of the life forms mentioned previously. I suspect though that the specimen is a very old fossil with a more recent sandstone coating dating back to 70,000 years or so. I am not familiar with the geological history of North Carolina

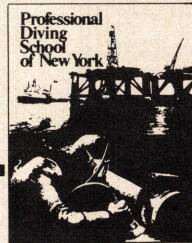
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Please send me your complete catalog/curriculum and school decal. (Out-of-state residents enclose \$1.00 to cover postage & handling)

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Underwater life support systems are potentially dangerous to a non-trained user. These include scuba tanks, regulators and buoyancy compensators. This ad does not constitute an offer to sell these items via mail order



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SIZE: X SM./SM./M./L./XL.  
SEND HEIGHT & WEIGHT  
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**80 cu. ft. Alum. Tank**  
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| <input type="checkbox"/> D | Fam. Make Press. Gauge              | \$34.95  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E | Fam. Make Depth Gauge (Lim. Supply) | \$29.95  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F | Weight Belt                         | \$ 5.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> G | Regular wet suit                    | \$136.00 |
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## SHELL COLLECTOR'S

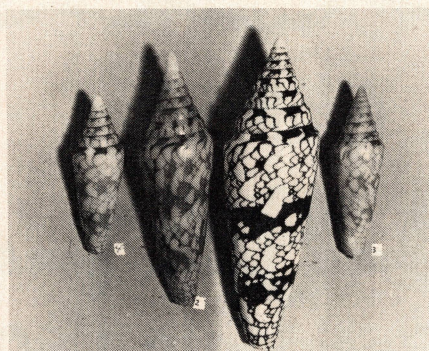
but I believe even the coastal regions are much older than 70,000 years. There are outcrops of Precambrian rocks in the eastern part of the state that are more than one billion years old.

The life of a sand dollar is quite short, probably no longer than a few months. When the animal dies the test, or shell, may become filled and coated with various types of material and, after a very long period, become fossilized. It may remain in this state for millions of years, slowly becoming coated with additional layers of material.

There are collectors who specialize in fossils of all kinds. I do not know who might be interested in obtaining a specimen of your sand dollar fossil nor what it might be worth to a collector. If readers are interested in specimens such as described above, send me your name and address and I will forward them to this fossil collector.

## THE GLORY OF INDIA CONE

From Fairfax, California, Jim Conroy wrote, "I understand the Glory of India cone shell is very rare. In all the books I've read I can't find much information on it. Could you please tell me how rare it is and how many have been found?"



The Glory of India cone shell has the unwieldy scientific name *Conus milneedwardsii*, Jousseaume, 1894. It is one of perhaps a dozen legendary shells and one of an even smaller number of "lost" shells. Until a few years ago it was one of the ten rarest shells in the world and has a fascinating history.

*Conus milneedwardsii* first showed up (but not by that name) in 1749 when a shell dealer in France advertised Lot 40 of his sale catalog as, "Une coquille d'une extreme rarete" — a shell of extreme rarity. This shell was purchased by Madame la Presidente de Bandeville. Later, in 1780, she allowed the unique specimen to be sketched and described by J. G. de Favanne to illustrate the cone shell being called "le drap d'or pyramidal" — the pyramidal drop of gold shell. The drawing and description were published in d'Argenville's *Conchyliologie*

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## MEET Veronica Soulard. From the Philippines

Roni is a graduate of PADI International College in California "Gold" PADI's Master Instructor Career Preparatory Program. Here is a list of the Certifications she has earned during her 10 week stay in San Diego:



\* Openwater Instructor \* Underwater Photography Instructor  
\* Equipment Repair Instructor \* Deep Diving Instructor \* Search and Recovery Instructor \* Rescue Diving Instructor \* Retail Dive Store Operations and Management Specialist \* Water Safety Instructor \* First Aid Instructor \* CPR Instructor

Roni worked hard, had a lot of fun and dived aboard the College's two Coast Guard licensed diving boats. She's now ready to open her retail store in Florida.

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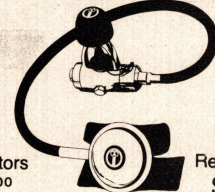
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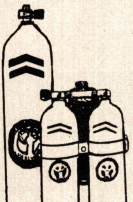
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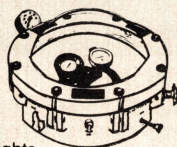


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in 1780. This distinct and very beautiful shell created a sensation. And then it apparently became "lost."

For the next 150 years, until September 14, 1899, the Glory of India cone shell was unheard of (almost). On that date a Captain F. W. Townsend of the Indian government steamer *Patrick Stewart* was engaged in recovering and repairing a submarine telegraph cable, reportedly about 125 miles west-southwest of Bombay, India. He had hoisted some ten miles of cable on board when, as he reported in a letter to two shell collecting friends, "We recovered, I think, about ten miles of the cable and an enormous quantity of shells came up with it. They were all dead, but several were in very good state of preservation. They were for the most part cones, and came up quite imbedded in the outer covering of the cable. This cable, I may state, had been untouched for nearly 30 years. It lay at a depth of, say, 45 fathoms."

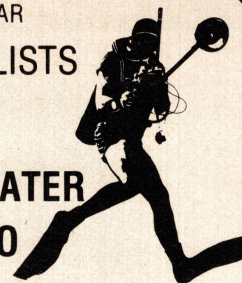
Captain Townsend saved many of the shells for friends. Two specimens of a cone shell he sent to J. C. Melvill and R. Standen were later described by them and called *Conus clytospira*. The largest of these two shells measured 119mm x 37mm. In his letter Captain Townsend added, "When the old cable was being hove in many things dropped off, unfortunately, after leaving the water and before they could be shipped on board, and many more were knocked off by the cheeks of the bow-sheaves; and I saw a most lovely specimen of this cone unfortunately so knocked off, I think about two inches longer than the best of the couple I secured." This would make the largest cone shell that fell back into the sea about seven inches long, a world record.

Melvill and Standen stated, in their description of the shell, that finding these was one of the most important discoveries of the kind in the 19th century. For many years the Glory of India cone was known by the name given it by Melvill and Standen. But they hadn't done their homework very well. It was later revealed that Jousseaume, in 1894, had described this cone shell from two small specimens, the second and third ever collected, that were located in the museum at Aden. They had named the shell *Conus milneedwardsii*. This name predated that of Melvill and Standen by at least five years and therefore takes precedence. In spite of this the shell has been popularly, but incorrectly, known as *C. clytospira* for over 70 years, even as late as 1965 in some collections.

From 1899 until 1930 no additional specimens were collected. In the 1930's a Major L. F. Regnard collected a large specimen at Tombeau Bay, Mauritius. In

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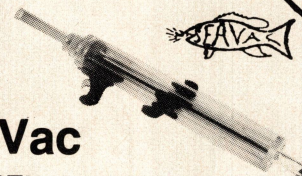
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1965 several were trawled by the fishing vessel *Gambas* between Mocambique and Beira, Mozambique, on the western coast of Africa. In 1972, two beachcombing collectors found four specimens near a town called Inhambane about 240 miles south of Beira.

In all available records I can account for 54 specimens of *C. milneedwardsii*, most of which were collected since 1965. My guess is that there are about twice that number of specimens in existence. The largest specimen collected that I know of measures 162.5mm (almost 6½ inches). Live collected, large, well colored and well marked specimens will probably sell for around \$1000 each. Dead, chipped, small, beach collected shells, no more than \$100 to \$200 each.

Apparently the range of this rare shell is from the coast of India near Bombay across the Arabian Sea, through the Seychelles and Mauritius, and along the coast of Mozambique but particularly in the Mozambique channel between Madagascar and Mozambique. Depth range appears to be 250 to about 1000 feet. Habitat is the same as preferred by the deep water shrimp: sandy silt with occasional areas of small rubble. It is interesting to note, however, that the only specimens of *C. milneedwardsii* collected near India were the two reportedly brought up on the trans-ocean cable.

Other cone shells, some much more rare and even more beautiful than *C. milneedwardsii*, include *C. exelsus* G. B. Sowerby III, 1908, described from a unique (one of a kind) specimen; *C. servus*, Lamarck, 1822, a shell that somewhat resembles a pale colored *C. bullatus*; *C. thomae*, Gmelin, 1791, first known in 1719 but not described for over 70 years; and *C. dusavelli*, H. Adams, 1872, described from a specimen found in the stomach of a fish.

I would appreciate collection data, photos, and measurements of specimens of *C. milneedwardsii* and of the other rare cone shells that readers can provide. Particularly I would like data on any other specimens of *C. milneedwardsii* collected along the Indian coast. ✎

## PADI SOUTHWEST

PADI Southwest will offer its second annual instructor training course in Albuquerque, New Mexico, July 14 through July 21, 1979. Total attendance is required to complete the 80 hour instructor certification program.

The emphasis, this year, is on PADI's new scuba course. Teaching methods and the recently developed audio visual program will be available for preview. Current instructors are welcome to attend any session.

To reserve space mail your name, address, telephone number and a \$50 deposit to: Course Director, Morys H. Hines Jr., Watersports, 5009 Menaul NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87110. Or call (505) 266-5218. ✎

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## FISH TRAP ALERT

The Marine Wilderness Society announced recently that it will begin immediate publication of Fish Trap Alert, a newsletter that will report progress on the 1979 legislative campaign to bring commercial wire fish trapping under control in Florida. Fish Trap Alert will provide readers an update on action in the legislature and suggest what they can do to help persuade key Tallahassee legislators to vote in favor of strict fish trap regulations.

The position of The Marine Wilderness Society is that unregulated fish trapping can result in lost traps continuing to kill fish, trap mesh openings that are too small capturing the juvenile fish that are the future of the fishery, and too many traps that are too big, lowering reef fish populations to dangerous levels.

For information on how to receive Fish Trap Alert, write: The Marine Wilderness Society, Box 943, Miami, FL 33165. ✉

## U/W ARCHAEOLOGY FILM

A 54 minute, 16mm color film documentary on the U/W excavation and restoration of the ancient ship of Kyrenia is now available for purchase or rent. This film is directed to lay audiences and is the first complete story of how trained archaeologists and dedicated amateurs restore an ancient wreck.

A co-production of the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation and the National Geographic Society the film, entitled *The Ancient Ship of Kyrenia*, is informative as well as visually exciting.

Purchase price (\$1000) includes delivery from Cyprus via air freight. Rental for a three week period is \$100. Several regional dive clubs may share the rental cost and circulate the film for dive club meetings. Cost of forwarding to the next user is at the renter's expense. Allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.

For information and brochures on this valuable film documentary, contact (via air mail): Cyprus Broadcasting Corp., P.O. Box 4824, Nicosia, Cyprus. ✉

## NASDS SALES CLINIC

The next NASDS Instructional Sales Clinic will be held June 10-15 in Newport, Rhode Island. Each NASDS instructor candidate attending the six-day clinic must be sponsored by a NASDS store/school. Upon successful completion of the clinic, the candidates will receive NASDS instructor certifications.

For further information about the NASDS Instructional Sales Clinic and a list of NASDS stores/schools, write to: NASDS Educational Division, 4004 Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego, California 92110. ✉



# THE RESORT DIVEMASTER A PERFECT JOB?

BY MICHAEL L. LEWIS



The ad read: "Wanted — Instructor for dive operation on sleepy tropical island. Duties include instruction, boat dives, equipment repair, etc. Reply to: I. Divealot, Paradise Dive Shop, The Remote Islands."

How many times have you thought, "Now that sounds like the perfect job: just the kind of job I would like to have." Would you really like to be a resort instructor? Let's take a closer look at that "position in paradise."

First of all, you have to have a full instructor's rating. That will be the first question your prospective employer asks. However, the days of the "instructor only" job situation are in the past. Resort employers want a multi-talented instructor who will not only teach scuba but also provide safe, enjoyable guided tours, drive boats, repair equipment, and trouble shoot mechanical problems. In short, the more you can do, the better your chances of being hired.

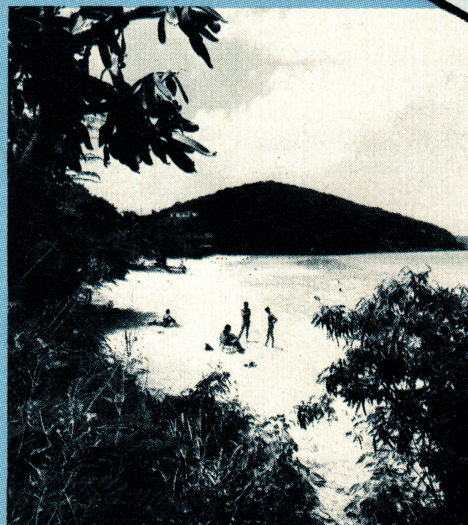
Further, some resort diving operations offer sailing and sport fishing in addition to diving. The instructor who knows how to sail or fish has a definite advantage.

If the job you are after is under a United States jurisdiction (Virgin Islands, Hawaiian Islands, Florida, etc.), you will want to obtain a U.S. Coast Guard captain's license so that you can work into driving the dive boat. In U.S. waters, it is illegal to operate any kind of charter boat without first obtaining this license. Your nearest U.S. Coast Guard office can furnish you with the details on obtaining this license.

As with many jobs, the most difficult requirement for the aspiring instructor to fulfill is that of experience. A large number of instructors working at resorts had experience as professional instructors before taking a resort job. An excellent way to acquire teaching experience and learn regulator repair, underwater photography, compressor maintenance — things considered "instructor basics," is to attend an instructor college.

Let's now assume that you have been offered a diving job in sunny paradise. You will want to ask a few questions of your prospective employer before rushing off to buy your airline ticket. These should include:

- 1) How much will I make in dollars and cents? Do not accept, "We will work it out when you get here."
- 2) What kind of dollars are they? I once accepted a diving job in the Caribbean and upon arrival found that my salary was in Eastern Caribbean (E.C.) currency which, at the time, came out to about one-half the amount in U.S. dollars.
- 3) How much tax comes out of your salary?
- 4) Employment with operations in foreign countries normally requires a work permit. Who pays for it? Work permits can cost hundreds of dollars. Incidentally, exercise care in dealing with the work permit situation. Shortly after we were married, my wife and I accepted the



Before accepting a job as a resort divemaster in sunny paradise, there are a few questions you should ask.

management position of a small diver-oriented hotel on a really beautiful island. Upon our arrival and receipt of our work permits we discovered that the hotel manager's position had been filled by someone else. My work permit described me as a "diver/maintenance person" and my wife was made manager of the hotel boutique — which we discovered was closed and contained an inventory of three boxes of Tampax.

5) Since an instructor's duties can vary quite a bit from job to job, ask what you will be doing. As an instructor, you will naturally spend part of your time teaching. In the resort setting your teaching duties will probably encompass everything from the half-day beginning or introductory scuba course to full certification courses and specialty courses such as photography, deep diving, etc.

6) Most resort instructors eventually work their way into guiding scuba tours. This part of resort diving is seen by vacationing divers as the perfect job. You actually get paid to dive to your heart's content. If you are interested in doing this, be sure to indicate it to your prospective boss.

7) You will probably be expected to help maintain dive equipment, do basic work on the compressor, and do at least preventive maintenance on the dive boat and company vehicle. Mechanical ability is a decided asset in the resort

(Continued on Page 85)



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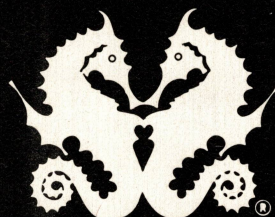
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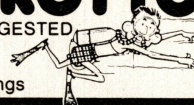
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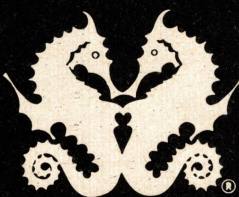
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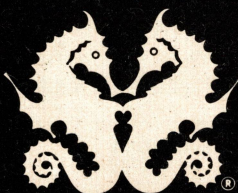


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## RESORT DIVEMASTER

(Continued from Page 81)

setting, and in some places is mandatory because mechanics simply do not exist. Occasionally a large operation will hire an instructor based on mechanical rather than instructional experience. If mechanics is your thing this might be an excellent way to obtain employment with a resort operation.

When you finally arrive at that little dive shop in the sun after traveling for what seems an eternity, the question, "Where do I stay?" suddenly pops up. Most employers will put you up for a short time while you get organized and find a place to live. During the busy season (winter/spring), housing generally increases in price and becomes as scarce as a bikini in the shade. A good plan is to arrive in the summer or early fall, when the housing situation is on a more even keel. It is difficult to quote rental rates for the tropics but in Hawaii or the Virgin Islands, which have similar costs of living, one can expect to pay \$150-\$300/month during the slow season for an apartment and more for a house.

The exceptions to the housing situation are hotels and the larger charter boat operations. Many (not all) hotels offer both room and board with the instructor position and, if you are the divemaster on a large charter boat, the captain will probably insist that you live aboard.

Wages for beginning instructors in a resort setting vary and are either a fixed salary or a percentage salary with a guaranteed base. The base gets you through the slow times while the percentage makes extra work worthwhile during the busy season.

A final consideration for an instructor contemplating a resort diving job is the question, "Is life in the tropics really for me?" Developing a taste for the sometimes frustrating flavor of tropical living can be difficult. Many people find that they miss the seasonal changes because life in the tropics can be very much like an endless summer. Furthermore, it is not easy to "get away from it all" when you want to take a break from work, especially if you are working on a boat or small island.

However, if you still like the idea of living in the sun and getting paid to go diving every day then don't walk, run to the next plane to paradise. Being a resort instructor might be the best job you ever had!



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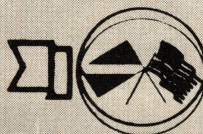
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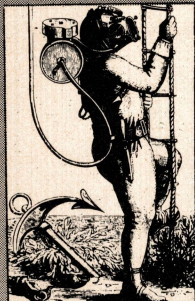


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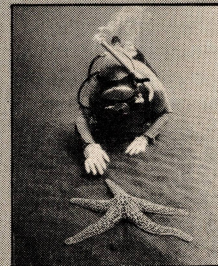
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## MEXICO'S WEST COAST

By OWEN LEE

**D**iving in Mexico! The mere mention conjures up pictures of Cozumel and Isla Mujeres in the crystalline waters of the Mexican Caribbean. But there are two sides to the diving story in Mexico because it is blessed with two splendidly different coastlines. And each one represents a new world and a new challenge to the underwater explorer.

Personally, I must confess a certain prejudice for diving on the Pacific coast of Mexico. Several years ago, after spending four weeks at sea, sailing leisurely along the craggy Mexican coastline, I discovered the beautiful bay of Zihuatanejo, about 120 miles north of Acapulco. Tucked neatly into a deep cove is the town of Zihuatanejo — a sleepy fishing village whose fishermen still venture far out to sea in dugout canoes to bring home the succulent seafood for which the town has long been famous. I became acquainted with the best dive spots in the area: *Los Morros*, six bald-headed mountains 10 miles offshore; *El Llunque*, offshore reefs of stone whose shallow, gnarled underwater topography and mysterious caves make it a favorite among diving tourists; *La Solitaria*, another underwater mountaintop whose bald pate pokes above the surface and whose surroundings literally teem with fish; and *El Tigre*, another seamount and the home of huge mantas, grouper and pargos.

It was on one of these dives that I met Ramon Bravo, a writer and filmmaker who is Mexico's most articulate statesman for marine conservation.

In 1969, Ramon and I acquired the rights to a beautiful peninsula at the seaward end of Las Gatas Beach. A year later we built a complex of six South Sea island style bungalows and formed the Las Gatas Beach Club. All but surrounded by the sea, it was an ideal spot to steep oneself in the ocean environment, to return to the source and substance of our existence. Teachers began to bring their classes to Las Gatas for ocean-oriented field trips, and in 1975 we offered the first summer session of Camp de Mar — Camp of the Sea — a place where students could have the opportunity to experience a new ethic regarding the interrelationship between life in the sea and life on Earth.

The reef-protected lagoon at Las Gatas Beach proved to be an ideal spot for student diver training. Coupled with lectures on ocean ecology and



biology, the diving took on new meaning, the students new enthusiasm.

Today Zihuatanejo has pink cobblestoned streets and four-story buildings. A new paved road now encircles about half the bay, it is only a ten-minute ride by taxi boat from the village pier to Las Gatas Beach Club.

Ten thatch-roofed restaurants and three dive shops have made Las Gatas Beach a popular daytime excursion for visiting divers and diners from nearby Ixtapa. But the taxi boats stop running at night and by sunset the entire beach reverts to its 16 permanent residents and the few guests in Las Gatas Beach Club bungalows.

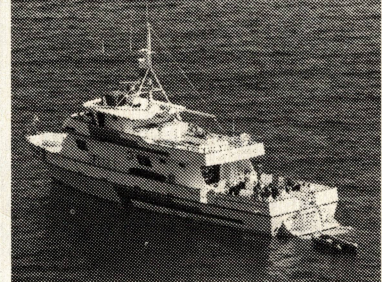
Camp de Mar is now entering its fourth consecutive year of operation. The program will run from July 1st until August 15th. Enrollment is limited to 30 students, 15 years of age or older, who speak Spanish or English, are in good health, and can swim 200 yards without aids.

Tuition is \$200 per week per student. This includes room, board, lectures, free use of all club and sport facilities, campouts, day excursions, sail boats, fishing and two open water dives per week. Scuba certification will require at least three weeks and a certification fee of \$130.

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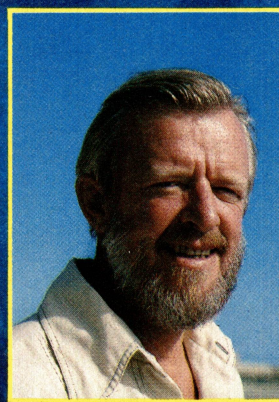
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# SMALL HOPE BAY





**S**mall Hope Bay Lodge is the oldest and best known dive lodge in the Bahamas. It also happens to be one of the friendliest resorts that a diver could choose for a dive vacation. And, amazingly the resort is still operated on a daily basis by the man who built the lodge with his own hands. More than 19 years ago Dick Birch first broke ground for what was to become his dream resort for divers.

Small Hope is on Andros, the largest of all the islands in the Bahamas. It is on the east side of the island, just a mile north of Andros Town. The resort is composed of a group of private cottages discretely tucked away among a grove of pine trees close to the edge of an ocean lagoon. The decor is rustic. Simplicity and privacy are the keystones

## Friendliest Dive Resort in The Bahamas

By Paul J. Tzimoulis

of this resort's delightful design. There are a total of 23 individual bungalow units which can accommodate between 50 and 60 people. Even when the resort is full, one seldom sees more than half a dozen people at one time, with the exception of mealtimes. There is a main lodge which serves as a focal point for the resort's social activities. Gathered under one giant roof is the dining area, a sprawling living room, a bar made from a ship's hull, a library, and a game room. The atmosphere is cordial and informal, and guests are treated like one big happy family.

Perhaps the most attractive thing about Small Hope Bay Lodge is its comparatively small size. The resort is large enough to comfortably accommodate small groups or families but sufficiently compact so that the owners can personally meet and devote attention to each and every guest. Dick and Rosie Birch are charming hosts who are genuinely interested in their guests and who enjoy spending time with them.

While Small Hope Bay has built its reputation over the years as a dive resort, it also caters to non-divers and beginners as well. There is a special program of three introductory scuba lessons for those who are interested in learning to dive. Non-diving activities at the resort include sailing, wind surfing,

beach combing, beach picnics, fishing, a tour of the Anrosia Factory for hand-dyed fabrics, and lessons in the art of batik. Eager to expand services and delight guests, Dick and Rosie Birch are constantly seeking new innovations. For example, three of the bungalow units are now equipped with waterbeds and there is a new California hot tub for relaxation after the day's diving is completed.

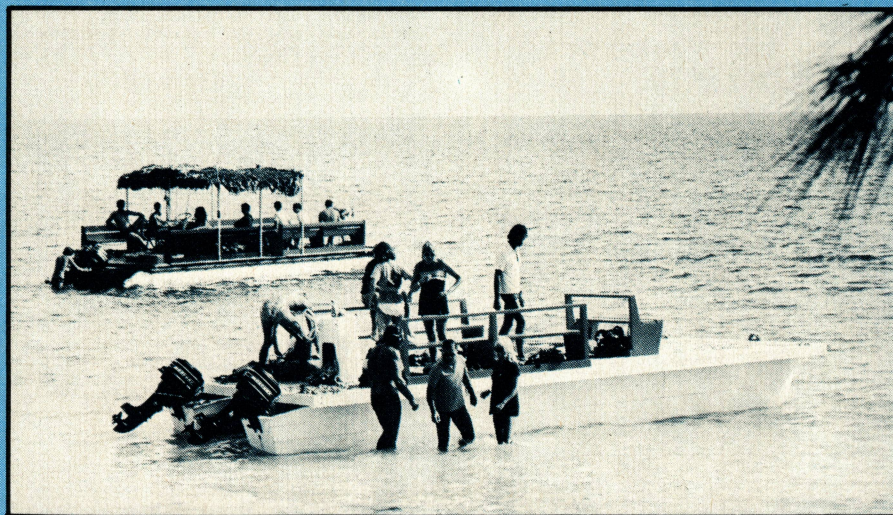
Small Hope Bay offers absolutely superb diving. The birthplace of wall diving, it has one of the most spectacular drop-offs to be found anywhere. Less than a mile from the hotel dock is the edge of a 142 mile long coral barrier reef, regarded as the second largest in the world of diving. Just beyond that is a drop-off which begins at approximately 75 feet and drops straight away to 6000 feet. This abyssal deep is known as the Tongue of the Ocean and is considered one of the great natural fish traps of the Atlantic. Visibility is a breathtaking 150 to 200 feet, offering a panoramic view of the drop-off. The face of the wall is decorated with a splendid array of colorful marine life in vivid hues of purple, orange, red, blue, gold and green. There are delicate sponges, trees of black coral, graceful gorgonians and many other beautiful sights.

Fish activity along the wall is impressive, with frequent sightings of eagle rays, sea turtles, schools of jack, and many other pelagic species. The wall is also the site of several rare encounters with spectacular marine creatures. Sailfish have been sighted by divers on several occasions. Several years ago Dick Birch watched a giant mola mola sunfish cruise by. Divers have reported hearing the squeaking sounds of porpoises and whales cruising close to the wall and there is even one reported

sighting at 120 feet of a giant squid. The unique combination of extensive visibility and the Tongue of the Ocean provides Small Hope Bay with a special window to the deep.

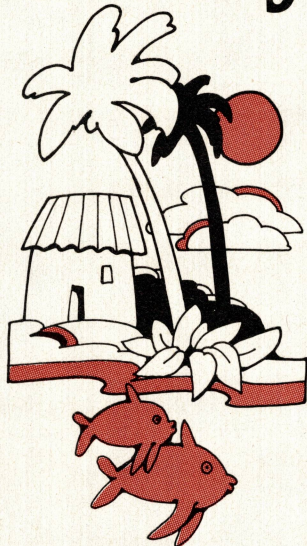
Another undersea attraction at this resort is the barge wreck located 150 yards inshore from the wall. Sitting upright in 70 feet of water is the corroding remains of a World War II Navy landing barge. Dick Birch sank it on the reef in February, 1963 and it has since become the natural home for about two dozen pet fish. Dick initiated fish feeding sessions almost immediately after the 65 foot wreck was sunk and has developed his own undersea zoo of Nassau groupers, yellowtail snappers, moray eels, schoolmasters, and other pets. The fish are so tame they actually swim halfway up the anchor line to greet visiting divers. They will take food directly from a diver's hand and are more than willing to pose for pictures. The wreck itself provides an ideal background for underwater pictures and the fish feeding antics add a touch of action to the scene.

Small Hope Bay offers a variety of different vacation packages for the diver. For example, there is an 8 day, 7 night program which includes 18 dives, accommodations and 3 meals daily. For those seeking a shorter visit, there is a 3 day, 2 night program which includes 6 dives. For more information, prices and brochures you can write to: Dick and Rosie Birch, Small Hope Bay Lodge, P.O. Box N1131, Nassau, Bahamas. You can also place a telephone call directly to the lodge by dialing (809) 328-2015. Special charter airline service is now available direct to Andros and you can make reservations for flight and hotel by calling Holiday Wings, toll-free, at (800) 327-2514.





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**Diver's Directory**

(CONTINUED FROM PRECEDING PAGE)

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Whaling City Diving Center Air, Service  
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## WASHINGTON

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**Diver's Directory**

(CONTINUED FROM PRECEDING PAGE)

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Packages - Dive Shops - Clubs  
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# United States Virgin Islands



Photo: Bret Gilliam, V.I. Divers, Ltd.



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## St. Croix:

Above & Below, 10 Strand Street, Frederiksted 00840. Tel.: (809) 772-3701

Caribbean Sea Adventures, Kings Wharf, Christiansted 00820. Tel.: (809) 773-6011

North Star Dive Tours, Box 3461, Christiansted 00820. Tel.: (809) 778-0825

Pressure Ltd., Box 3612, Christiansted 00820. Tel.: (809) 773-2678

V.I. Divers, Ltd., PanAm Pavilion, Christiansted 00820. Tel.: (809) 773-6045

## St. John: (Zip Code 00830)

Caneel Bay Plantation, Caneel Bay, Tel.: (809) 776-6111

St. John Watersports, Box 161, Cruz Bay, Tel.: (809) 776-6256

## St. Thomas: (Zip Code 00801)

Aqua Action Inc., Wintberg Peak, Tel.: (809) 775-3275

Bolongo Bay Beach & Dive Club, Box 3381, Tel.: (809) 775-1800

Caribbean Divers, Red Hook, Tel.: (809) 775-1935

Frenchman's Reef Undersea Centre, Charlotte Amalie, Tel.: (809) 774-8500

St. Thomas Diving Club, Box 4976, Tel.: (809) 774-1376

Virgin Islands Diving School, Box 9707, Tel.: (809) 774-8687

Joe Vogel Diving Company, Box 7322, Tel.: (809) 774-2321

Watersports Center, Box 2432, Tel.: (809) 775-0755

## United States Virgin Islands

St. Croix • St. John • St. Thomas

© 1979 United States Virgin Islands Division of Tourism, Box 816, Farmingdale, NY 11736.

## HILTON TOURS

The Jamaica Hilton Aquatic Club now offers a new package for advanced certified divers. The new programs run from April 1 to December 20 for groups, and from April 16 to December 15 for individual divers.

All packages include seven nights' air-conditioned accommodations, breakfast and dinner daily, round trip airport transfers between Montego Bay Airport and the hotel and a welcome rum cocktail. The dive portion features an orientation session, six days of diving with two tank dives per day, private motor launch to dive sites accompanied by an experienced guide, use of weights, tanks and backpacks.

For groups of 15 persons or more (minimum of 10 from May 1 to September 30), cost of the all-inclusive package is \$421.50 per person for twin accommodations. Extra nights including dives are \$64 per person. Extra nights without diving are \$38.

On an individual basis, the package is \$431 per person for twin accommodations. Extra nights including all dive features are \$65.50 per person. Extra nights without diving are \$38.

Single accommodations are available on an individual and group basis. Non-diving participants receive an allowance of \$155.50 on the group package and \$165 on the individual.

Participating wholesalers include Travel Plans International, Chicago; Global Sports Tours, Los Angeles; Happy Wanderer, New York; and Underwater Adventure Tours, Chicago. Individual reservations can also be made through Hilton Reservation Service and group reservations through Hilton International regional sales offices.

## CAYMAN KAI RESORT

Cayman Kai, on the north coast of Grand Cayman Island, is close to perfection for the discriminating diver. Offering two dozen different dive sites, each with a unique character of its own, the underwater sights are limitless: sunken wrecks, tropical fish, undersea cliffs with rare black coral outcroppings — all in crystal clear ocean water.

Cayman Kai offers accommodations in comfortably appointed "sea lodges" each complete with living room, screen patio and fully equipped kitchen with a choice of one or two bedrooms and baths — the perfect arrangement for a vacationing family. Lodge provisions can be purchased at the resort "pantry," and for a change of pace the main dining room offers an

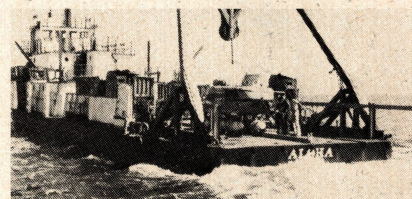
appetizing array of American and/or island selections. Special highlights include a Thursday buffet, Sunday champagne brunch and an underwater slide show every Monday night. For island drinks try the "Top of the Kai" where native entertainment is featured every Wednesday and Saturday night.

For the non-diver there are other attractions: superlative shopping in the free port capital of Georgetown, miles of protected beach for sunning and/or strolling, and solitude for reading or just thinking — all in a perfect climate where air conditioning is unnecessary even in the height of summer.

For further information, contact your local travel agent.

## IUC'S FLOATING LAB

Andre Galerne, president of International Underwater Contractors, has announced that IUC's new research vessel, *Aloha*, is now operating and available for charter.



*Aloha* is a 143 foot offshore supply vessel retrofitted for submersible, deep diving and survey support missions. Fully comfort-conditioned quarters and laboratory areas are provided for a complement of 24 for operating periods of up to 20 days at sea without replenishment.

The vessel has been configured for tasks requiring a combination of long range, spacious working facilities and unusually comfortable accommodations. All staterooms are panelled, spacious and air conditioned.

*Aloha* features twin diesel propulsion and an operating range of more than 6000 miles. Special scientific equipment is easily installed in the large 10 x 20 foot laboratory area of 14 x 17 foot pilot house. A wide range of standard navigation and communication equipment is carried. Standard underwater support equipment includes IUC's deep diving submersible *Mermaid II*, complete with its specially designed launch/recovery system permitting operation in heavy weather conditions. In addition, various dive systems with special gas mixing equipment can be installed as required.

Based at IUC's City Island, New York facility, *Aloha* is conveniently located to support almost any project off the U.S. East Coast.

For further information, contact: Andre Galerne, International Underwater Contractors, 222 Fordham Street, City Island, NY 10464.



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## ROESSLER LEADS RED SEA PHOTO EXPEDITION

Sea & Sea Travel, Inc. has announced a special trip for underwater photographers, Sept 4-18, led by Carl Roessler, one of the world's leading underwater photographers.

See & Sea Travel's 1979 schedule includes a complete dive program to the Red Sea, specially tailored for diver-



photographers, which includes three tanks each day from a comfortable boat, plus free additional tanks for night diving. Members of See & Sea's inaugural group averaged 34 dives during their ten days of diving. See & Sea groups also enjoy an all inclusive program with all meals, all transfers and a full day tour of fabulous Jerusalem included in the price.

For information, contact: See & Sea Travel Service, Inc., 680 Beach Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

## SEABORNE VENTURES DOMINICA PROJECT

Seaborne Ventures, Inc., of Key West, Florida, has announced the commencement of its Dominica Project, a three year treasure/archaeological salvage project which will locate, excavate, and salvage over 100 historic shipwrecks in the waters of the Caribbean island nation of Dominica. The contract is based upon an exclusive salvage contract granted in October, 1978 by the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica, a nation which recently received its formal independence from Great Britain. Visual and electronic survey operations will begin immediately.

An estimated 150 shipwrecks lie beneath the waters of Dominica. Fore-

most among them are the six major ships of the Spanish treasure fleet of 1567 which wrecked on Dominica's north coast. This fleet carried a Mexican treasure cargo, mostly in gold, of 3,000,000 pesos which is valued at today's prices in excess of \$300,000,000.

For information, contact: Seaborne Ventures, P.O. Box 1054, Key West, Florida 33040.

## OUT-ISLAND DIVE BOAT

Out-Island Oceanics, Inc. has contracted the construction of a new 62 foot research vessel to replace the R/V *Dragon Lady* which was sold in December, 1978. The new fiberglass vessel is being built in Tampa, Florida by Astor Marine and will be completed in August, 1980.

Accommodations include four double staterooms, plus crew quarters, a large main salon, separate galley, and 20 x 18 foot open aft deck for gearing up. The new vessel was designed by Capt. Dan Doyle and Suzanne Ford based on seven years experience running dive trips to remote locations in Florida and the Bahamas.

For information write: Out-Island Oceanics, Inc./Gold Coast, 800 S.E. 17th St., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316.

## MAUI CHARTER BOAT

Veteran dive boat skippers Mike and Cathy Lewis now offer a combination dive/sail charter on their 38 foot trima-



ran, *Tahirih Leilani*. Trips will include dives to the best spots around Maui, Lanai, and Molokai, as well as overnight trips to more remote areas.

The Lewises also offer a special 6 day/5 night live aboard scuba certification course.

For information, contact: Michael Lewis, Box 511, Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii 96761.

## SEE & SEA TO MALDIVES

See & Sea Travel, Inc., of San Francisco, has arranged a unique combination dive-tour which includes diving the Maldive Islands, off the tip of India, and a land tour of Sri Lanka (Ceylon).

See & Sea's groups cruise through the islands on a 75 foot teakwood vessel, with unlimited diving.

For information, contact: See & Sea Travel Service, Inc., 680 Beach Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.



# CAYMAN.

From dry land, the gentle Caribbean ocean of the Caymans may seem like a lot of other oceans to you. But just a few feet below sea level there's an extraordinary world so beautiful you probably won't want to come up for air.

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Box 26, Grand Cayman, B.W.I.

Tortuga Club  
Box 496, Grand Cayman, B.W.I.

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Box 894, Grand Cayman, B.W.I.

Cayman Kai Resort Ltd.  
c/o HPI, 1301 W. 22 Street,  
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CONCH OUT ON CAICOS

## ST. CROIX DIVE PACKAGE

Pressure, Ltd., in conjunction with Anchor Inn of St. Croix and Air Florida, now offers a new dive package which includes air fare from anywhere in Air Florida's route system — including Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia.

This all inclusive package is for those who have always wanted to dive St. Croix but found the air fare prohibitive. Pressure, Ltd.'s new package includes round trip air fare, accommodations at the Anchor Inn, tanks, backpacks, weightbelts, daily breakfast, welcome drink, ground transportation to and from the airport, T-shirt, and a slide show/rum punch party. The 8 day/7 night package is \$499 per person and includes 10 dives. The 5 day/4 night package with 6 dives is \$365. Non-diver prices are \$374 for 8 days and \$285 for 5 days.

Pressure, Ltd. is a unique floating dive shop situated dockside adjacent to the Anchor Inn. The 46 foot custom dive boat/shop is completely equipped for the traveling diver and is well equipped to handle groups. The Anchor Inn is located in the heart of downtown historic Christiansted and each room has television, bath and air conditioning.

For information and reservations, contact: Brian Friedman, Pressure, Ltd., P.O. Box 3612, Christiansted, St. Croix, USVI 00820.

## MAUI DIVE SHOP

Orley Paxton, formerly with Skin Diving Hawaii, has opened a full service dive shop on the island of Maui. The shop, Kihei Sea Sports, located in the Kihei Town Center, carries a complete line of sport diving equipment and accessories. Full certification courses on a five day or a six week



basis and a half day introductory scuba course are offered by a staff of five professional dive instructors. A Bristol 18 cfm compressor, 20 sets of rental scuba equipment, a complete equipment service center, and a charter dive boat await all divers.

For more information contact: Kihei Sea Sports, Box E, Kihei, Maui, Hawaii 96753.

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**skin diver**  
does a complete dive guide of  
where to go and what you'll find



## MEDICAL SEMINAR IN SAN SALVADOR

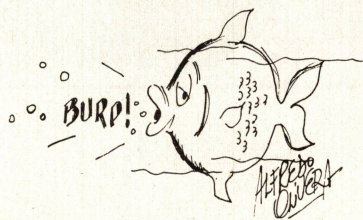
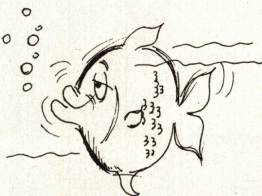
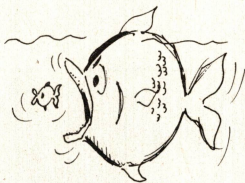
The Medicine and Physiology of Sport Scuba Diving seminar will be held at San Salvador Island, Bahamas, September 22-29, 1979. This course will emphasize clinical aspects of recent developments in dive medicine.

The program is sponsored by the Undersea Medical Society and approved for 25 hours of Category I Continuing Medical Education credits for the Physicians Recognition Award of



the American Medical Association. It is also approved by the American College of Emergency Physicians for 25 hours of ACEP Category I credits.

In addition to the academic seminar, a complete dive program has been arranged in San Salvador, including a diving certification course. For a brochure and academic schedule, contact: Medical Seminars, Inc., P.O. Box 530441, Miami Shores, FL 33153. Or call (305) 751-7660.



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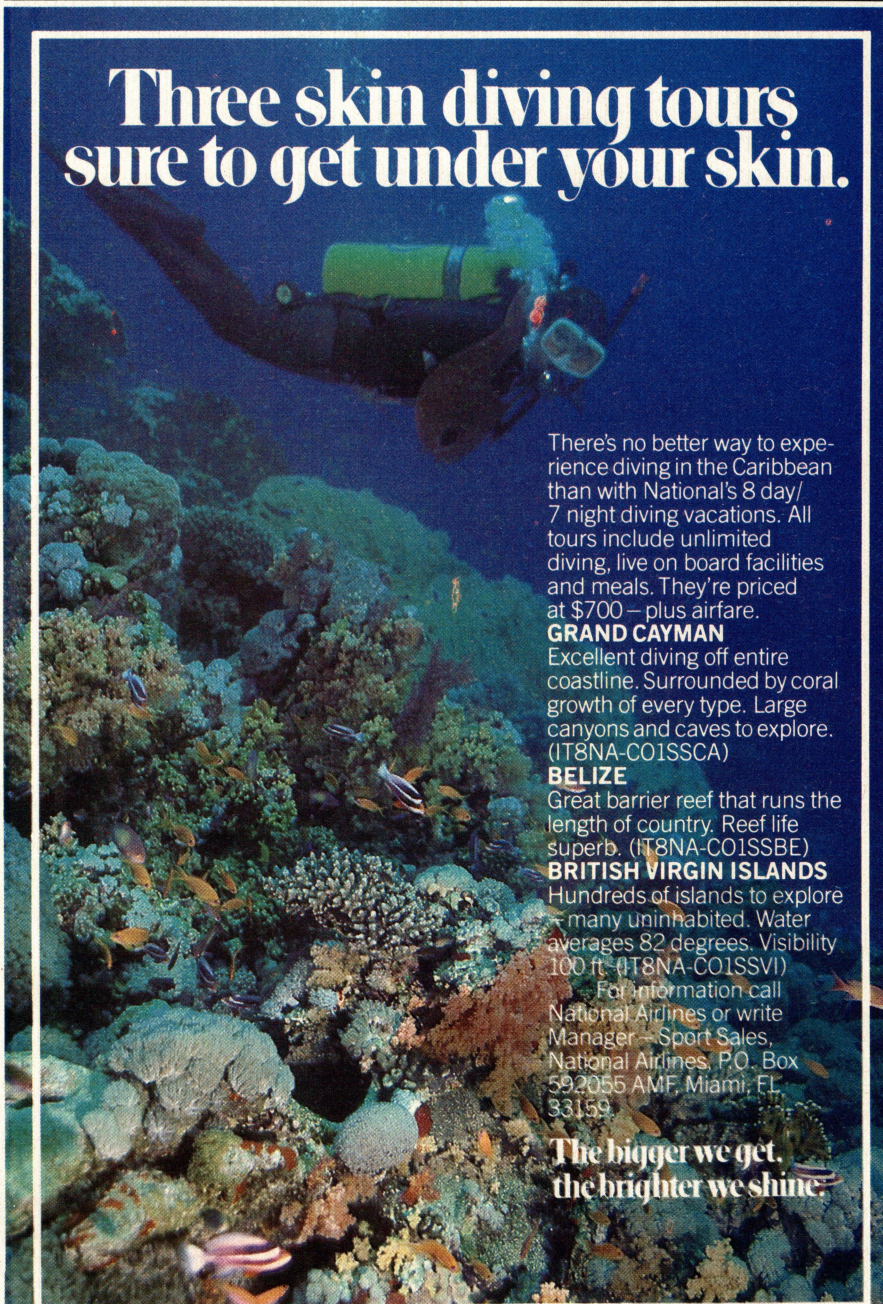
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Cinnamon Bay Campground, Virgin Islands National Park, Box 120, Cruz Bay, St. John, U.S.V.I. 00830.



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# National Airlines



Introduced at the DEMA Show earlier this year was a new, inexpensive underwater camera and housing designed specifically for the sport diver. Designed and manufactured in Italy, this new unit consists basically of a 35mm camera in a compact, cast aluminum housing. Painted a bright international orange, the Alfamar is possibly the smallest underwater camera housing made of metal in the world today.

### THE HOUSING

Made of heavy duty cast aluminum, the housing has five individual external controls for focus, aperture, shutter speed, film advance and trigger release. It offers all of the capabilities of more expensive professional units. At the back is a small viewport for the frame counter.

The housing consists of two parts — a front and back which mate against a large O-ring gasket seal. The two are held together by four stainless steel spring-loaded cam locks which quickly unsnap for film loading. The housing has a smooth, attractive, durable finish, rounded corners, and a recessed area for the shutter release lever. The front port is flat optical glass and the collar is threaded to accept auxiliary lenses for both wide-angle and close-up work.

The housing features a standard Nikonos III flash connector for use with either flash bulb units or underwater strobes. The housing and camera are compatible with most U.S. manufactured flash units as well as the Italian-made Quasar 120. A standard shoe mount at the top of the housing accommodates almost any standard optical viewfinder on the U.S. market.

Because of its rugged design, it appears this unit will endure heavy use and may prove to be a good rental camera system for dive shops and vacation resorts. Each housing is pressure tested to a depth of 300 feet before shipment. Slightly negative in the water and well-balanced, it is very easy to operate.

### THE CAMERA

The Alfamar housing was specifically designed to accommodate an inexpensive, Italian-made 35mm camera. In fact, it looks like the housing is probably worth more than the camera itself. This is actually a blessing in disguise for the budding underwater photographer who might accidentally flood the housing: According to the distributor, replacement cameras are approximately \$75.

The camera comes equipped with a standard 50mm lens, which produces very sharp photographs. The only draw-

back is that the camera does not have interchangeable lenses. However, an auxiliary wide-angle lens adaptor will fit the front of the housing.

The camera has a leaf-shutter design which will operate at four different shutter speeds: 1/30, 1/60, 1/125, and 1/250 second. The big advantage to this particular shutter design is that it will synchronize strobe and flash pictures at all four speeds, unlike most cameras which synchronize at only 1/60. The aperture knob is on the right side of the housing just forward of the shutter release trigger and has a full range of openings from f2 to f22. Conveniently located at the top of the housing is the focusing knob, which faces the person operating the camera. Calibrated in meters, distance can range from a minimum focus of 1.2 meters (4 feet) to infinity.

The camera takes standard 35mm film. You can shoot slides, color prints or black and white photographs. The camera stays in the housing when film is loaded or unloaded; it is not removed from the housing unless it is being replaced with a new unit.

### ACCESSORIES

In addition to the camera and housing, there are a variety of auxiliary lenses which will screw onto the front lens port of the housing. The thread size is a standard 58mm, identical to that of the Nikonos. Perhaps the most interesting accessory available for the Alfamar is the 15mm wide-angle lens adaptor which will work not only on the Alfamar but on any Nikonos 28mm or 35mm lens. This gives you a wide-angle photo when used with the Alfamar and, although there is a very slight vignetting in the extreme corners, this is hardly noticeable after the slide has been mounted.

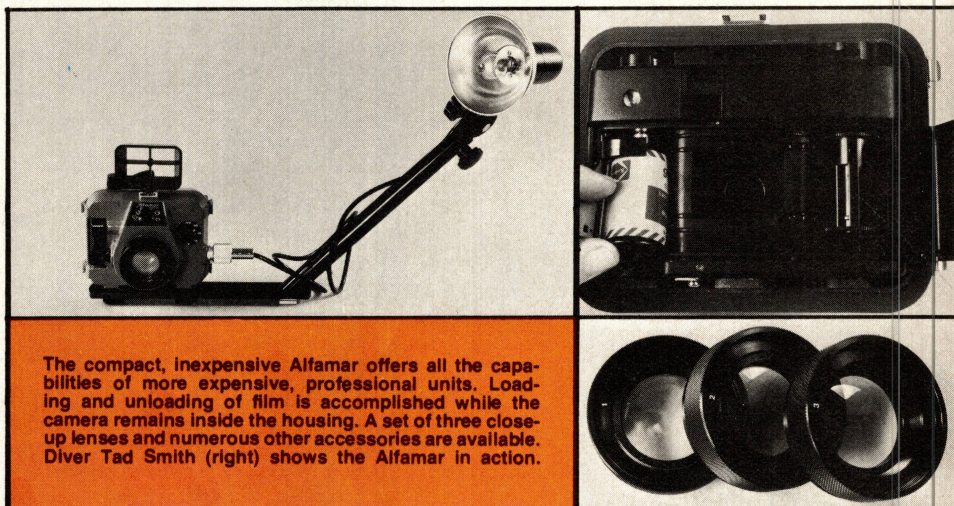
There is also a set of three close-up lenses of various magnifications. These diopter lenses screw onto the front port of the housing.

The Alfamar camera and housing with flash contact is available at a retail price of \$299. The wide-angle lens adaptor is sold separately for \$270 and the close-up lenses are \$90 each. For more information and the dealer nearest you, write to: Alfacam U.S.A., P.O. Box 1059, Tampang, Calif. 90290. ➤

Introducing the Italian Import

# alfamar

Text and photography by Geri Murphy



The compact, inexpensive Alfamar offers all the capabilities of more expensive, professional units. Loading and unloading of film is accomplished while the camera remains inside the housing. A set of three close-up lenses and numerous other accessories are available. Diver Tad Smith (right) shows the Alfamar in action.





mar







# The Sea



**T**he U.S. Divers Sea Otter is so new it is not yet listed in the company's 1979 catalog. Similar in appearance to the BC jacket concept which has won such great popularity in the past year, the new Sea Otter combines wraparound body design with specific control features found in other U.S. Divers BC's.

## DESIGN

The Sea Otter follows the basic design of an over-the-shoulder inflatable jacket with fabric side panels and a single waist strap for comfort and convenience. The outer bag is made of a urethane-backed Cordura nylon which is highly resistant to cuts and abrasions. It is available in two basic colors — either a solid U.S. Divers yellow or a contemporary two-tone blue. Inside the Cordura bag is an electronically sealed inner bladder made of polyurethane. Water accumulating between the outer bag and inner bladder during the dive quickly drains from nylon mesh panels at the bottom. There are also two grommets positioned at the shoulder for venting off any trapped air bubbles which might accumulate before the dive. An additional new design feature is the durable nylon waist strap buckle which is virtually unbreakable and unbendable.

The Sea Otter is one of the only American made buoyancy compensators with the LP inflator on the right side. The power inflator is positioned low on the front so that its air hose can be worn under the right arm and close to the body for right hand operation.

Perhaps the most outstanding feature of the Sea Otter is its new dual control inflator/deflator assembly made entirely of high-impact nylon. This device offers full buoyancy control with

one hand at almost waist level position. The dual control is equipped with a large push button for rapid power inflation and a simple squeeze lever for rapid deflation. The squeeze lever activates a large diameter dump valve positioned on the right side of the Sea Otter and linked to the squeeze lever by a stainless steel cable. The Sea Otter is one of the few buoyancy compensators



The new Sea Otter BC combines wraparound design with high performance control features.

which does not require the user to raise his arm overhead for deflation.

The Sea Otter is also equipped with many safety back-up designs for fail-safe operation. For example, the spring-loaded dump valve located on the shoulder also serves as an emergency pressure-relief valve in case the BC is over-inflated. The poppet spring on this valve is set for 2 psi above ambient pressure — well below the safety tolerances of the air bladder's construction. The simplified rocker design of the dump valve also permits it to be operated manually. The diver need only reach up with his right hand and press down lightly on the rocker end of the valve itself.

Another safety feature is the thumb button, positioned at the inflator

assembly, which provides for quick release of the LP inflator hose from the jacket.

The BC is also equipped with a large bore oral inflator positioned on the left shoulder. Equipped with a push button valve at the mouthpiece, this inflator serves as a secondary back-up system for deflation. In addition, the oral inflator provides an alternate method for inflating the BC should the diver's scuba tank be empty or the primary inflation system not function properly.

The ultimate safety back-up for emergency inflation is a fast firing CO<sub>2</sub> inflator positioned on the lower left side of the jacket. It is loaded at the factory with a 38 gram CO<sub>2</sub> cartridge.

As for accessories, the Sea Otter is equipped with an emergency signal whistle which is attached to the oral inflation hose. There is also a small pocket on the left side which is helpful for carrying gloves or incidentals.

## PERFORMANCE

As a buoyancy compensating device, the Sea Otter performs three distinctly separate functions for the diver. Underwater, it is a working tool to be used on each and every dive; it provides neutral buoyancy regardless of depth or payload. The dual control power inflator gives an amazingly delicate trim with just a touch of the button or deflator lever.

In the event of an underwater emergency the Sea Otter is an extremely reliable and responsive ascent device. It can bring you up quickly yet safely. The large orifice dump valve allows an ascending diver to slow down or stop in a fraction of a second by merely activating the lever. It's like slamming on the air brakes in a truck.

On the surface, the Sea Otter is both a comfortable and reliable personal flotation device. It provides a diver with 53 pounds of positive buoyancy when fully inflated and can safely support a large man or woman in full scuba gear.

Additionally, the Sea Otter can be used by free divers or snorkelers by the simple and quick removal of the backpack and scuba tank. Judging from initial open water tests, the Sea Otter is indeed a welcome addition to the U.S. Divers line of buoyancy compensators. For more information and a demonstration visit your U.S. Divers dealer. ➤

By Paul J. Tzimoulis

# Otter

A New BC From U.S. Divers Co.



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# Medifacts

BY CHARLES V. BROWN, M.D.

## CLICK-MURMUR SYNDROME

**W**ho ever heard of the click-murmur syndrome? Till recently, almost nobody. But now that doctors know about it, they're turning up a lot of cases. Most are young women. Different surveys report a varying incidence. In one, it was about ten percent. In another, careful examination revealed a click and murmur in one-fifth of the young women examined. It seems fair to conclude that a substantial number of female scuba divers would, if surveyed, show the same findings. The question of significant risk to safety assumes importance.

These people have defective mitral valves. That's the valve between the left atrium and ventricle. The click is the sound of an oversize valve leaf slamming shut as the ventricle begins to contract. The murmur reflects the vibrations set up by the backflow of blood through the closed but defective valve. In most cases the leakage is minor and need not preclude diving. But there's more to the story. People with mitral click-murmur are more likely than others to have cardiac dysrhythmias. This is frightening, because water immersion also favors dysrhythmias, and summation of the two influences could lead to underwater blackout and drowning.

Most people who have the click-murmur have no symptoms and can probably dive safely. The few who have a significant rhythm disturbance are at risk. Those who have palpitations (heart irregularities they can feel) should not dive. Those who do not have palpitations should be checked for dysrhythmias. Methods available include frequent pulse taking, stress EKG, and 24 hour EKG monitoring. When all tests are completed, a physician should make the decision about fitness for diving.

## HYPOGLYCEMIA

Robert Taradoina of Mt. Clemens, Missouri, has been advised to quit diving because an exam turned up hypoglycemia. His blood sugar (glucose) level was too low. He finds the advice quite depressing, as he definitely does not want to give up diving. Everything else in his medical check-up was normal. How about it?

**Answer:** Hypoglycemia is common. The body has a regulatory system to keep the blood sugar level within a normal range, but like all systems, it can get out of whack. The derangement most often seen is called reactive hypoglycemia. When you eat sweets or refined starches, your blood sugar starts to increase rapid-

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ly. In response, your pancreas releases insulin, which drives glucose into the liver and fat depots for conversion to storage forms (glycogen and fat). In reactive hypoglycemia there's an overshoot. The insulin isn't turned off soon enough, and for a while the blood sugar goes too low. During this time, you may feel tired, weak and hungry.

Such low blood sugar reactions can generally be avoided by a change in eating habits. Coarse grained carbohydrate foods digest slowly, so deliver glucose to the blood slowly. Protein and fatty foods do not digest to glucose. Thus the pancreatic response is much smaller: Little insulin is released at one time, and the overshoot effect is not seen.

How about diving? An episode of reactive hypoglycemia doesn't last very long, and can be shortened by eating a small amount of something sweet. More important, it's not apt to recur during exercise. Glucose delivered from the intestine to the blood is rapidly consumed by muscle activity (it's a fuel), so its level doesn't get high enough to trigger insulin release. It doesn't go too low either, because glucose is regenerated from its storage forms as needed. Therefore, most divers who are subject to reactive hypoglycemia need not give up the sport, if they simply follow the universal rule not to get into the water when not feeling well.

Before jumping for joy, however, get together with your doctor and make sure that your hypoglycemia really is the reactive type. There are other forms not so brief, not prevented by exercise, and not compatible with safe diving.

#### HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

Fred Hoover of McMinville, Tennessee, is a 46 year old diver who takes medicine for high blood pressure. He'd like to know if diving could be harmful.

**Answer:** It all depends. If the hypertension is inadequately controlled, a diving emergency could push the blood pressure to a dangerous level. On the other hand, too much medicine used to reduce blood pressure may render a diver faced with an emergency unable to cope with the stress. Furthermore, hypertensives may have various complications that would affect diving safety. Many hypertensives on treatment can and do dive safely. Each case must be considered on an individual basis. An internist or family practitioner trained in dive medicine should make the decision.

#### KEEPING ABREAST

Medifacts comments on mammary augmentation and diving have provoked responses from some readers with first hand experience. Several women who have silicone implants testify that they've had no problems in spite of frequent diving to depths as great as 165 feet. One however does note that it's best to avoid

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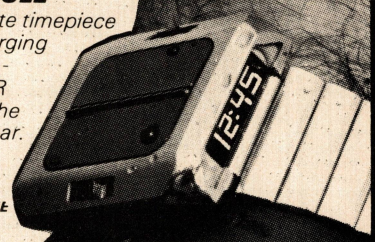
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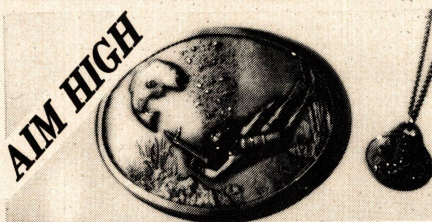
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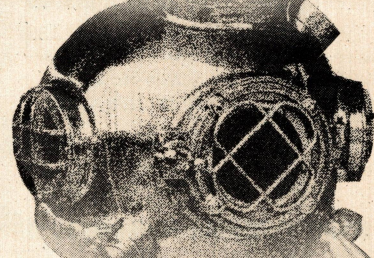
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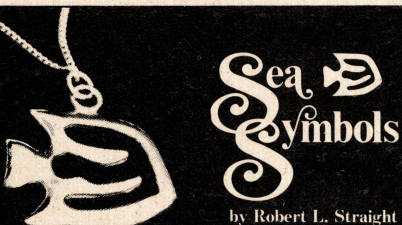
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## MEDIFACTS

load-bearing straps crossing the artificial inserts. Nothing serious — just a matter of ouching and bruising.

### HEMOPHILIA

Jac Moncrief of Houston, Texas, writes to confirm our suggestion that disorders which inhibit blood clotting need not disqualify a person from diving (Medifacts, Jan. '79). Although he is a hemophiliac, he's been diving for about a year without any problems. Besides being a lot of fun, he finds it is good therapy for bad joints.

### MEDICAL CAREERS

A female Seattle nurse wishes to pursue a career in dive medicine and asks about opportunities.

**Answer:** There are not a lot of openings. Most dive medicine is military, commercial, or academic based. You could enlist in the Navy and apply for duty at the Experimental Diving Unit at Panama City, Florida, or join the Air Force and apply for the hyperbaric unit at Brooks Air Force Base at San Antonio, Texas. You could also try the major offshore corporations like Oceaneering International, Taylor Diving & Salvage, etc., but be warned that they're still largely male bastions. Or you could apply to one of the many university-sponsored hyperbaric research programs. For information on these, try the Undersea Medical Society, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20014.

A final suggestion is to seek employment at a hospital that's into hyperbaric therapy, such as St. Luke's in Milwaukee and Long Beach Memorial Hospital in California.

## NASDS INSTRUCTOR COLLEGE

The 1979 summer session of the NASDS Diving Instructors College is scheduled to begin June 25th and end August 31st. The 10 week course, held in San Diego, prepares divers for full-time careers with NASDS member stores/schools throughout the United States, Canada and the Caribbean. Presently there are more than 100 jobs available for qualified instructors through the network of the professional scuba schools belonging to NASDS.

The cost for attending the NASDS Diving Instructors College is \$1,995, including books and supplies. The course is V.A. and state approved.

For further information about the NASDS College, write to: NASDS Educational Division, 4004 Sports Arena Blvd., San Diego, CA 92110.

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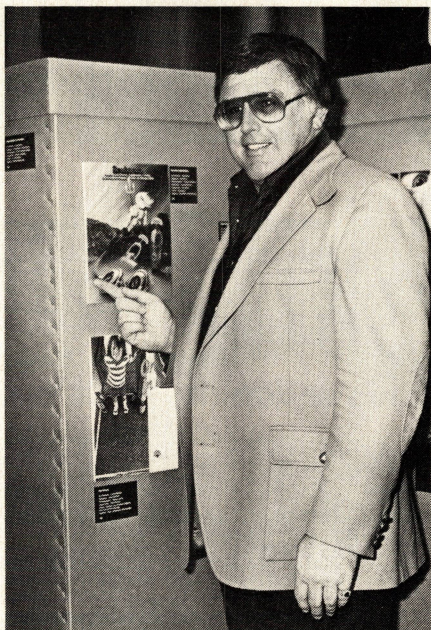
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Roy Brizz

tries displayed in the show held at the Pacific Design Center, Los Angeles.

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The Scubapro cover combined the photography of Robert Wolfson and illustration of Cornell Morton to create the theme of the catalog. The concept and design were created by Roy Brizz. >

## RESEARCH DIVERS

Using the Admiral's Arms Inn as a staging base, two PADI specialty courses on coral reef biology were taught on South Caicos Island, West Indies, March 3-11, 1979 by Dr. George S. Lewbel, a noted marine biologist and PADI open water scuba instructor.

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The program was organized and conducted by Leesa Wiesner. For information on future expeditions to South Caicos, contact Leesa at: Aquarius Dive Shop, 800 Elm St., Ludlow, KY 41016. >



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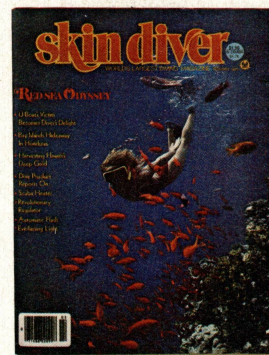


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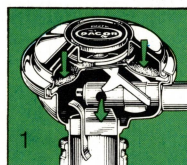
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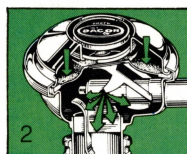
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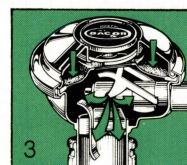
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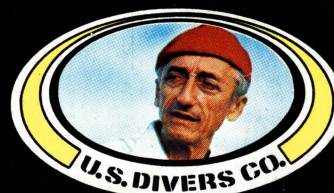


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